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The Hongkong Telegraph

WEATHER FORECAST
FAIR.
Barometer 29.71.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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August 31, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 78 2 p.m. 86
Humidity 93 72

August 31, 1916. Temperature 6 a.m. 81 2 p.m. 88
Humidity 82 63

7738 日四十月

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1917.

禮拜五 號一廿月八年庚辛

SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS.
\$36 PER ANNUM.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

Many Enemy Attacks Fall.

London, August 30.
An Italian official message states:—We drove back strong counter-attacks in efforts to re-take the positions on the Bainsizza Plateau. To the west of Gorizia we maintained our positions and advanced at some points. We took 381 prisoners. An enemy attack between Vipacco and Dossofatta failed. We repulsed three repeated attacks in the Travençolo Valley.
A Great Victory Pending.

Attention is being directed in an increasing degree, to the Italian Front, in view of the possibility of a great development of General Cadorna's successes. The *Messenger* quotes General Cadorna as saying that a decisive Italian victory is imminent, which will mean the turning point of the whole war. It is reported from Munich that there is great friction between General Hindenburg and Prince Conrad. The former advised the Austrian withdrawal from important lines which would be strategically untenable, but the latter insists on holding the positions to the east of the Bainsizza Plateau at all costs and demands German assistance therefor.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S REPLY.

A Chorus of Press Approval.

London, August 30.
All the newspapers in their editorial comments speak favourably on President Wilson's Note replying to the Pope's proposals.

The *Daily Telegraph* says the Note is a reminder that our task is not nearly ended. It welcomes President Wilson's indignation against the monstrous character of the warfare loosened upon mankind, and says the Note comes like an invigorating wind blowing away the cobwebs which dupes and pacifists have been spinning around central things.

The *Morning Post* says the Note is the only answer which those not ready to capitulate to Germany could give. It is an inestimable service to the Allies to find, after three years of unresolvable strain, such strong and clear-headed leadership.

The *Daily Mail* says the Reply has the spirit and viewpoint which the world has learned to expect from all President Wilson's war utterances.

The *Daily Express* says there is no doubt as to America's war aim. She entered the conflict to destroy militarism and she will not sheathe the sword till the world is free of the Hohenzollern blight.

The *Daily Chronicle* calls attention to the peculiar value of America's pronouncements, because she is unfettered by alliances. The Reply is an impassioned refusal to treat for peace, on the basis of the status quo ante, with the present German Government. It is a resounding proclamation of the reality of right, the reality of wrong and the impossibility of reconciling them by sweet words.

The *Daily News* says the Note is a passionate appeal to the people of Germany to repudiate the evil system which enslaves them. It adds that the Pope's plan would be a triumph for reaction.

The *Times* says that President Wilson has replied as all Allied statesmen must. President Wilson acknowledges the purity and sincerity of the Pope's motives, but the Allies cannot accept the proposed path to peace, because it does not lead where the Pope believes it leads.

The Senate Approves.

London, August 30.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, the Senate has warmly approved President Wilson's reply to the Pope.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

Incendiarism in Petrograd.

London, August 30.
Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says that another large factory in an Okhta suburb has been burned. The damage is estimated at several million roubles. Incendiarism is suspected.

Soldiers Prevent Diet Meeting.

London, August 30.
Reuter's correspondent at Helsinki says that Russian troops occupied the Parliament building and prevented the re-assembly of the Diet. Bentries stopped over one hundred Socialist and other Deputies attempting to enter. There was no disorder. The President of the Diet has protested to the Governor-General in connection with the matter.

POST-WAR SHIPPING POLICY.

Some Important Recommendations.

London, August 30.
An influential committee of shipowners has issued a report on the shipping policy which should be adopted after the war. It declares, *inter alia*, that the state control of shipping after the war must cease. All shipping laws should be made uniform all over the Empire. It urges the freedom of the Allies' ports, State assistance in opening new markets, the re-establishing of services stopped during the war, and that the Suez Canal revenue should be applied for the development of trade through the Canal. The report adds that important Empire ports should be developed by State aid.

LONDON BAKERS' STRIKE THREAT.

London, August 30.

The London bakers have decided to strike unless night-work is abolished.

THE DECLINE OF THE ROUBLE.

London, August 30.

The rouble continues to decline, and to-day 20½ equals a pound.

SIAMESE LEGATION LEAVES BERLIN.

London, August 30.

Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam states that the Siamese Legation has left Berlin for Copenhagen.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE MILITARY OUTLOOK.

British Wearing Down the Germans.

London, August 30.
General Maurice, discussing the military situation with Reuter's co-correspondent, says that the pause on the Italian Front was due to General Cadorna getting up artillery. Much depends on whether he can make his new preparations before the Austrian reserves arrive. Although there are no dramatic developments on the British Front, the wearing down of the Germans is proceeding and is having a greater effect than the public realise. Since July 31, the Germans have engaged in battle twice as many Divisions as we have, and have withdrawn slightly more than twice as many as we. This is the barometer which shows how the battle is going.

General Maurice, speaking of the Eastern Front, said General von Mackensen's attack had been completely foiled by the gallant Rumanians, and also by the successes of the Italians. Concerning General Korniloff's statement at Moscow regarding the state of the Russian Army, he said it was remarkable that the Central Powers had not accomplished more on that front, and it did not say much for their resources.

NEW BRITISH POLITICAL PARTY.

A Constructive Democratic Policy.

London, August 30.
Twenty-seven Peers, M. P.'s and others, including Lord Amthill, Lord Montagu, Lord Ebury, Lord Stafford, Mr. A. H. Burgoyne, Sir Richard Cooper and Admiral Markham, have seceded from the Unionist Party and formed a National Party to promote the reform of the Union and defence. They have issued a manifesto in favour of a constructive policy, founded on a democratic basis, the unity of the Empire in Council and defence, mutual reciprocal aid in the development of the Empire, and the victorious conclusion of the war.

THE FIGHTING IN THE WEST.

German Artillery Busy.

London, August 30.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports that enemy artillery is active at Nieuport. The weather is wet and stormy.

A German Claim.

London, August 30.
A German official wireless message states:—An English attack to the north-east of Wielje collapsed.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

More Positions Abandoned.

London, August 30.
A Russian wireless official message states:—We repulsed attacks at Radoviz, near Omsk, in the direction of Kozdiz Sarbeli. The enemy attacked east of Ireshiti and dislodged our troops, some of whom abandoned their positions and retired to the north. Measures have been taken to restore the positions. The battle is progressing. We have occupied two villages in the direction of Pendjvin.

The Enemy Advance.

London, August 30.
A German official wireless message states:—We repulsed the Rumanians to the south of Turgul and Omsk. We captured Ireshiti and pressed the enemy northwards towards the Szeist Valley. We took 300 prisoners. Enemy relief attacks to the north-east of Muncial failed.

CANADIAN CONSCRIPTION.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Loyal Promise.

London, August 30.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Ottawa, Sir Robert Borden, in the House of Commons, asked Sir Wilfrid Laurier to join in the appointment of a Board of Selection to select Conscription Tribunals. Sir Wilfrid replied that, although personally and officially he was opposed to the principle of the measure on which his own party was not united, he would accept, as the Bill was now law and it behoved every loyal subject to see that its provisions were carried out.

GENERAL SUKHOMLINOFF'S TRIAL.

Some Interesting Evidence.

London, August 30.
Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says that at the trial of General Sukhomlinoff, General Michelson, Military Attache at Berlin from 1906 to 1911, gave evidence. He said that the Ministry of War was aware that Germany was contemplating war in 1909 and again in 1913. The President sitting in the trial asked which Power Germany proposed to ally herself with, but the answer was given behind closed doors.

GERMANY'S LATEST PEACE PROPAGANDA.

London, August 30.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, President Poincaré, in a speech at Verdun on the occasion of the bestowal on General Patin of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, referred to the new and infamous German peace propaganda in Allied countries, which, he declared, was doomed to failure.

OPERATIONS IN EAST AFRICA.

London, August 30.

A Belgian East African communique states:—Co-operating with the British, we are driving back the Germans to the north-west of Mahenge between the Roip and Bimber Rivers.

M.P.-AIRMAN KILLED.

London, August 30.

Flying Officer the Hon. Francis McLeven, Liberal M.P. for Spalding, has been killed at Montrose. His machine nose-dived into the sea.

FRENCH SHIPPING RETURNS.

London, August 30.

The French shipping arrivals for the past week numbered 920 and the sailings 1,013. Three vessels over 1,000 tons and one under were sunk. Four were unsuccessfully attacked.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE HEROIC RUMANIANS.

Admired by Foreign Officers.

London, August 30.
The *Times* correspondent with the Rumanian Army, writing on August 23, says:—The war-like capacity of the First and Second Armies has excited the admiration of all foreign officers present. At one point the Rumanians counter-attacked fourteen times, and at another, after a counter-attack, 2,500 German corpses were counted. It is confirmed that the German losses were incomparably heavier than those of the Rumanians, which were severe. The Germans attacked, and continued to do so, in compact masses, similar to their attacks at the Battle of the Yser. A number of German divisions has been withdrawn, while the Rumanians have not moved during an infernal fortnight. Young Rumanian officers, only a month from school, evinced indomitable bravery. The spirit of the troops is very praiseworthy and is reflected in the civil population. The obstinacy of the German onslaughts against Moldavia is due to a desire to occupy the whole of Rumania and to treat it like Poland.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

PRESIDENT WILSON ON PEACE.

An Eloquent Reply to the Pope's Note.

London, Aug. 30.
President Wilson, replying to the Pope's note, says in *inter alia*: The object of this war is to deliver the free peoples of the world from the menace and actual power of a vast military establishment controlled by an irresponsible Government which, having secretly planned to dominate the world, proceeded to carry out the plan regardless of either its sacred obligations and treaties or the long-established practices and long-cherished principles of international action and honour; which chose its own time for the war, delivered its blow fiercely and suddenly, stopped at no barrier of either law or mercy, swept the whole continent within a tide of blood—not the blood of soldiers only but the blood of innocent women and children and the helpless poor—and now stands balked but not defeated, the enemy of four-fifths of the world. This Power is not the German people; it is the ruthless master of the German people. It is our business to see that the history of the rest of the world is no longer left to its handling. To deal with the German Government in the manner the Pope proposes would involve the recuperation of its strength, would necessitate the creation of a permanent hostile combination of nations against the German people who are its instruments and would result in abandoning new-born Russia to intrigue and manifold and subtle interference and certain counter revolution which would be attempted by all the malign influences to which the German Government has lately accustomed the world. Can peace be based upon the restitution of the power of the German Government or upon its word of honour in a treaty? The root test of every plan of peace is this. Is it based upon the faith of all people involved or merely on the word and ambitions of an intriguing Government on the one hand and a group of free peoples on the other? We believe the intolerable wrongs done in this war by the furious and brutal power of the German Government ought to be repaired but not at the expense of the sovereignty of any people, rather in vindication of the sovereignty both of peoples weak and strong. Punitive damages, dismemberment of Empires, establishment of selfish, exclusive and economic leagues we deem inexpedient and ultimately worse than futile and no proper basis for peace of any kind, least of all for an enduring peace. The latter must be based on justice, fairness and the common rights of mankind. We cannot take the word of the present rulers of Germany as a guarantee of anything that is to endure unless it is explicitly supported by such conclusive evidence of the will and purpose of the German people themselves as the other peoples of the world would be justified in accepting. Without such guarantees, treaties of settlement, agreements for disarmament, conventions for establishing arbitration instead of force, territorial adjustment and reconstitutions of small nations, if made with the German Government, no man and no nation could now depend upon. We must await some new evidence of the purposes of the great people of the Central Empires. God grant it may be given soon and in such way as will restore the confidence of all peoples everywhere in the faith of nations and the possibility of a conventioned peace.

THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE.

More Revelations of Undisciplined Soldiers.

Moscow, Aug. 30.
Speaking at the Conference at Moscow General Alexieff confirmed the worst that General Korniloff said about the disorganisation of the Army. He contrasted the army of the old regime, poorly equipped but strong in warlike spirit, with the present army, poisoned and enfeebled by ill-interpreted and ill-applied doctrines and split into two opposite camps, namely officers and soldiers. The duties of the soldiers to their leaders had now disappeared and the officers were becoming veritable martyrs. They had paid dearly for the offensive on the 1st August and the subsequent retreat.

General Alexieff gave amazing illustrations of this. Once, when an attack was launched in force, it was made up of twenty-eight officers, twenty non-coms. and two soldiers. The other soldiers looked on coldly while these heroes perished.

M. K. Krensky Again Quoted.

Moscow, Aug. 30.
At the Conference representatives of the agrarian organisations and banks evoked great indignation by declaring that the Soldiers and Workmen's Delegates Councils had disorganised industry by openly criticising the revolutionary movement.

A leading Moscow manufacturer said the merchants were not opposed to control so long as it was reasonable and national.

M. Krensky, in his closing speech, summed up the views expressed at the Conference as manifesting a desire to arrive at an agreement with the Provisional Government. He also emphasised that the Provisional Government would not suffer a counter revolutionary effort.

The Premier's speech was continuously applauded.

(Continued on page 8.)

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service To The "Telegraph.")

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, August 31.
Silver is quoted at 45½. There are only scanty supplies, and the market is firm.

AN ACTOR'S EXPERIENCE.

Mr. John Halliday Prosecutes Chair Coolies.

Mr. John Halliday, of the Frawley Company, was the complainant in a case at the Police Court this morning, four chair coolies of the Peak being summoned for demanding more than their legal fare.

Inspector Garrod stated that Miss Ling and Mr. Halliday journeyed to the Peak on Sunday morning and engaged two chairs. They went first to the flag-staff and afterwards came back along the Chamberlain Road, proceeding round to Mount Kellett. On the way back, the coolies put down the chairs and demanded \$4 before they would go on. They became very abusive and frightened Miss Ling. A Chinese gentleman who was passing assisted in getting the men to finish their journey, but Mr. Halliday had further trouble when they got back to the tram station. The legal fare was a matter of fifty cents. He added that the coolies on the Peak were especially troublesome in that respect. They singled out people who were new to the Colony, and the demanding of more money was a regular practice. It was very hard to get cases brought up, because the people were only passing through.

Mr. Halliday gave evidence, saying that when a long way from the station the men put the chairs down and asked for \$4 each. He told them that he would pay them their fare later, but they shook their fists and became very excited. Miss Ling, who had gone a little way away, saw a Chinese gentleman and he told witness that the fare should be fifty cents each. After some hesitation, the men continued the journey. Miss Ling was rather terrified, because it was at a very lonely spot. The first defendant seemed to be the ringleader.

In reply to his Worship, Inspector Garrod said that the Government provided the men shelter at the Peak. He thought with they could earn about \$16 a month.

His Worship convicted all defendants and imposed a fine \$19 on the first defendant, he having been the leader, and fines of \$5 on the other three.

DONT FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Frawley Company.—Presentation of "Twin Beds" at the Theatre Royal; 9.15 p.m.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Union Insurance Society's Extraordinary General Meeting; noon.
Hongkong Hotel Co.'s. Half-Yearly Meeting; 12.15 p.m.
Frawley Company.—Presentation of "Bought and Paid For" at the Theatre Royal; 9.15 p.m.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.
Saturday, September 2.
Night Fete at the V.R.C.; 9 p.m.



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All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

DEATH.

MACDONALD.—Capt. Alexander Lindsay, Military Cross, of the Royal Flying Corps and Lieut. Black Watch; youngest son of Major Donald Macdonald, V.D., H.K.V.C. and Mrs. Macdonald London. Killed in Action on 26th August. Aged 19 years. (By Cable).

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1917.

THE SERVICE DOLLAR.

From the tone of the letters which we have been receiving regarding the decreasing pay of the troops in the Colony, in consequence of the steady rise in the exchange value of the dollar, it is apparent that very considerable discontent is being felt in Service circles at the present abominable conditions. Indeed, from what has already appeared in print, and from certain comments which we have refrained from publishing, the situation appears to be one requiring very careful and delicate handling. Men who have given or have shown their willingness to give, their all for their country are fast becoming disgruntled, and we do not wonder that they should feel impatient with the circumstances as they now are. It does not matter who is to blame—somebody is; that is certain. And there will be no cessation of the grumbling or discontent until the authorities, whether here or at Home, take the matter up and act promptly. The grievance is a very real one to those affected, whose servants of the King, have a right to expect decent treatment and consideration. Instead of that, nobody seems to be in any hurry to act, and, as the dollar rises, the Tommies see their pay and allowances becoming less and less every day.

We have been at some pains to enquire into the position of the average soldier here in regard to pay and allowances, and the facts with which we have become acquainted are such as to arouse our deepest sympathy for the hard-nit Tommy. The pay of these men runs to the fabulous sum of one shilling per day, out of which, if separation allowance is desired for dependents, sixpence has to be compulsorily allotted. That sixpence entitles the wife or other dependent to the princely allowance of 11s. 4d. per week; if the allowance is to be raised to 12s. 6d., the allotment must be made up to eightpence. Most of the men now serving here, it should be remembered, have dependents to maintain. Out of the remainder of their shilling, the soldiers have to pay certain company subscriptions, meet the cost of cleaning gear and pay for losses of little articles of kit, which will always go astray where there are a large number of men living in barracks without separate rooms. Then they have to provide for certain necessities, such as tooth-paste, etc. and, of course, pay for a periodical hair-cut. There are certain allowances, but these, with the dollar at the present rate, are, we are informed, quite insufficient. Formerly the messing allowance was threepence a day; now it is fourpence halfpenny, but the latter sum, when converted into local currency, is now worth less than the threepence formerly was. The messing, we are told, now costs at least 17 or 18 cents a day. Fivepence per week, is allowed for washing, but this, likewise, is insufficient, as the cost comes to about a dollar per month.

There are other directions in which inroads are made on the soldier's pay, but from what we have mentioned, it will be seen how little the average Tommy must have for himself after meeting all outgoings. Indeed, some of them, so we are informed, find themselves with nothing at all when, after receiving their pittance on Friday, they pay out for the necessities which we have cited above. And the worst of it all is that the higher the dollar goes the less pay do the men get and the smaller do their messing and washing allowances become. These are some of the facts which are at the bottom of all the trouble. They are little short of disgraceful, especially when we remember the sacrifices which some of the men affected have been called upon to make. Trifling with the subject, or minimizing the just grievances of the men, will not do much longer. It is time for immediate and effective action. The men have the sympathy of the public, who are convinced that there is thoroughly genuine cause for complaint. How much longer will the situation be permitted to go unremedied?

The Canton Fiasco.

With the march of time, the situation in Canton becomes more and more grotesque, and, were it not for the serious side of recent developments, we might be inclined to take the whole matter as a huge joke. In spite of his instability, Dr. Sun Yat-sen has managed to attract some fifty disgruntled and place-seeking Members of Parliament to the South, and these opportunists have held what can only be described as a mock Parliamentary meeting. The movement has certainly not gone so well as its sponsors had hoped, and it is illuminating to read that some of the M.P.'s who intended coming to Canton abandoned the idea when they discovered that they would have to forego their monthly Parliamentary salary. That little incident serves to show the motives of the Southern extremists who are talking so loudly of "saving the country." It would be interesting, too, to know who really controls affairs in Canton at the moment. With the flight of Chu Hing-lan, the Provisional Assembly (composed mostly of Kuomintang agitators) has taken upon itself to elect Wu Hsien-shan to the post, but the Tachun very rightly holds that the appointment is outside the sphere of the Assembly and lies with the Acting President.

The General Outlook.

Chan Ping-kwan's explanation of deference to Peking in this matter is characteristically shrewd, if a little thin. It is that Kuangtung's "independence" applies only to "the illegal Cabinet," and not to the Acting President. In the meantime, we hear of the existence of none too sweet relations between the Tachun and Chan Ping-kwan, while precisely where Dr. Sun's place is in the present medley we do not know. The whole situation is farcical in the extreme, and we wonder how long such a state of affairs will be permitted to continue. Looking at matters dispassionately, we cannot see that the Kuomintang schemings are likely to fructify. Indeed, we sincerely hope that they will not. This is not the time for the pushing of party schemes in China, much less for the development of the separatist idea. Unity is the prime essential of the moment. But that is the last case to which the Kuomintang party desires to put its energies.

A Local Disfigurement.

We are glad to note that the authorities are at last taking in hand the dilapidated looking structure on the Pkay, which is known as the "Statue" Pier. It is so called, we believe, because it is situated immediately opposite Royal Square, which, as is well-known, is so artistically adorned with the statues of certain members of our Royal Family; that it is very generally conceded to be one of the most attractive spots in the City of Victoria. Besides the statues, it has many other features that have earned it its prominence as a distinctly handsome square and a peculiarly picturesque part of the city. Then why, in the name of common sense, do the authorities tolerate such a vile-looking structure, with its ugly meshed, to remain opposite this Square, marred by its presence, advertising hourly the apparent lack of taste in those responsible, and handing the eyes of those who know that utility and beauty can be easily and inexpensively combined? For a very small sum the authorities could remove the present rotten pier—for it certainly seems to be in that unhappy condition—and its equally ugly and meshed, and erect a pier with a suitable covering if deemed necessary, in keeping with the amenities of the neighborhood. At any rate, it is more than time that the present dock structure be removed. It is an eyesore and a disgrace to the locality, and the fact that the authorities are again tinkering at the old structure is positively painful. In the recent bit of a typhoon that hovered around our little island the elements all but did what the authorities ought to have done long ago. Let us have it removed at once. It is a sad reflection on the taste of those in authority that such an abomination should have existed so long at such a spot.

DAY BY DAY.

DON'T THOU LOVE LIFE? THEN SQUANDER NOT TIME, FOR THAT'S THE STUFF LIFE IS MADE OF.

To-morrow's Anniversary. To-morrow is the third anniversary of the election of Pope Benedict.

The Dollar. The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3-0.173d. The closing rate will be found on Page 1.

New Clock.

The Star Ferry Company is erecting a big clock over the Hongkong pier, facing Ice House Street.

Stolen Drugs.

A Chinese detective was in Wo Fung Street, West Point, yesterday, when he saw three men breaking open packing cases. It transpired that they were stealing some Chinese drugs from the cases. Two men were successful in getting away, but the third was brought before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning and sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

Back Again.

In the early hours of this morning, Sergeant Fallon was in Connaught Road when he saw a Chinese acting very suspiciously. He arrested the man and on taking him to the station it was discovered that he was a returned banished. He had been banished five times and this was the fourth time he had returned. At the Police Court this morning, Mr. Dyer Ball sentenced the man to one year's hard labour.

Dishonest Dock Worker.

As he was coming out of the dock gates at Hungnam yesterday, an employee was searched and found to have concealed, tied round his leg, a quantity of copper and white metal. Mr. Dyer Ball, who heard the case at the Magistrate's to-day, was told that the white metal was very valuable and that a lot of thieves had been going on at the Dock lately. The man had been employed for about ten months. His Worship sentenced the man to six weeks' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

A Duck in Court.

In a case wherein two Chinese, a man and a woman, were charged, before Mr. J. R. Wood to-day, with stealing a duck at Kowloon City, the complainant stated that he had put a mark on one of the duck's feet and so knew that it was his. To prove this point, he took the duck into his witness box with him, but the bird made such a noise by continuous quacking that it was hardly possible to hear the evidence. The defendants stated that they bought the duck some two months ago. After hearing other evidence, his Worship dismissed the case.

Returned Banished's Theft.

At three o'clock this morning, a dishonest Chinese was prowling round Hungnam when he came to a house with bamboo scaffolding all round. Climbing up this, he gained the roof and by means of a trap door let himself down into the house. Forcing open a chest of drawers, he stole a gold watch chain, valued at \$120, and also \$11 in money. The man disturbed the occupants, but he got away and made a run for it. After a long chase, he was caught. It was stated before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Magistrate's this morning, that the defendant had previously been banished for five years. Sentence of four months' hard labour was passed.

Kidnapping Epidemic.

When a kidnapping case came before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, Sergeant Wille, of Yaumatei, said that there had been no less than fourteen cases reported in fourteen days. They were all cases of very young children, and this was the first arrest. Last evening a boy was given a two-year-old baby to carry, and whilst he was in a cinema a woman gave him five cash with which to buy some pearls. She promised to mind the baby until he came back, but on his return the woman and child were missing. The police were informed and within two hours the woman was arrested with the child in her possession. His Worship remanded the defendant until Thursday next.

THE SERVICE DOLLAR.

Another Hongkong Protest.

The following telegram has been despatched to the Navy League in London:—
"Hongkong Branch Navy League strongly supports application naval and military Services for relief from unbearable hardship caused by high rate of exchange which reduces local pay silver currency by over one third. Publish this London newspapers."
—Williams.

VOLUNTEER RESERVE ORDERS.

Order No. 49, issued to day by Major Wakeman, Commanding H.K.V.R., states:—

On duty from the morning of Sunday, the 2nd September, to the morning of Sunday, the 3rd September, H.K.V.C.

Nat. for duty, "B" Coy. H.K.V.R.
Orderly Officer, 2nd Lieut. G. C. Moron.

Parades.

Monday, 3rd September.—All the N.C.O.s and men of A and B Coys. who have not passed in Elementary Training Musketry Tests 297 (1), (2), (3), 298 (1), 299 (2), (4) will parade on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Drill Order. A Coy under Lieut. J. Owen Hughes. B Coy under Lieut. B. Branch. Signalling Section: The following will attend Volunteer Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue.—For Heliograph Instruction: Lieut. Cpls. Goldsmith and Mayes, Ptes. Higgins, botham and Coasart. For Flag Drill: Ptes. Mattingley, Wilson and Gompertz. Remainder will parade at Happy Valley for Station Work under Lieut. Sgt. Crawford. Fall in at Monument 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue.

Tuesday, 4th September.—A & B Coys, Recruits & Machine Gun Section on the road outside the Orderly Room at 5.15 p.m., Kowloon Dock Section at Kowloon Dock, Taikeo Dock Section on Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. for Elementary Training (Musketry) Test 29 (2) (Fire Discipline). Dress: Drill Order. Every man including exempted members must attend this parade.

Wednesday, 5th September.—All the N.C.O.s & men of A & B Coys who have not passed in Elementary Training Musketry Tests 299 (8), (9), (10) will parade on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Drill Order with Pouches. A Coy under 2nd Lieut. R. Sutherland. B Coy under 2nd Lieut. F. H. Thomas. Signalling Section.—The following will attend Volunteer Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue.—For Heliograph Instruction: Lieut. Cpls. Goldsmith and Mayes, Ptes. Higgins, botham and Coasart. For Flag Drill: Ptes. Mattingley, Wilson and Gompertz. Remainder will parade at Happy Valley for Station Work under Lieut. Sgt. Crawford. Fall in at Monument 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue.

Friday, 7th September.—Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. under Instructor Sgt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill Order.

Staff Leave.

Capt. Champkin is granted leave of absence from 30th August to 30th September.

Staff.

Lieut. E. Eran Jones will take over the duties of Adjutant during the temporary absence on leave of Capt. C. Champkin.

Transfer.

No. 125 Pte. C. B. Boyers is transferred to "D" Coy on Medical Certificate.

Notice.

All application for leave addressed to the Adjutant must be sent to the Orderly Room.

VOLUNTEER ORDERS.

Corps Orders issued to-day by Captain J.H.W. Armstrong, V.D., state:—

Strength.

Private A.J. Coelho joined the Corps on 28. 8. 17, is allotted Corps No. 2108 and posted to Right Section M.G. Co.

Leave.

Captain A. M. Preston is granted one month's leave, from 22. 9. 17. No. 1521 Pte. A. A. Claxton is granted two months' leave, from 28. 8. 17.

Promotions.

No. 1450 Pte. P. A. Cordeiro and No. 1664 Pte. C. F. V. Ribeiro, to be acting Lance Corporals, dated 24th August, 1917.

Engineer Company.

Detail of duties at Lyceum from 1st to 15th September is posted at Headquarters.

Parades.

Monday, 3rd September.—At 5.10 p.m. Centre Section M. G. Co., drill at Kowloon Dock. Hongkong residents proceed by launch from Statue Wharf at 4.30 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. Belchers 6" Section (Range Takers' class only) at Belchers Battery; Artillery Battery (Range Takers only) at Belchers Battery; Right Section M. G. Co., and Scouts Company on Murray Parade Ground under unit Commanders (Tests of Elementary Training); Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables. Recruits of all units on Murray Parade Ground under Corps. Grimes, Edgcombe and Edmonds and Lieut. Meade.

Tuesday, 4th Sept.—At 7.10 a.m. Scouts Company M. G. Co. Detachment at Headquarters. At 7.30 a.m. Belchers 6" Section at Belchers Battery. At 5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery at Belchers Battery; Left Section M.G.Co., and Civil Service Company at Headquarters under unit Commander (Section drill and Visual Training); Stretcher Bearer Section at Headquarters; Signalling Section "A" and "B" classes at Happy Valley (Heliograph and Flag Station work).

Wednesday, 5th Sept.—At 5.30 p.m. Right Section M. G. Co., and Scouts Company at Headquarters under unit Commanders (Tests of Elementary Training). Thursday, 6th Sept.—At 7.10 a.m. Scouts Company M. G. Co. Detachment at Headquarters. At 5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery (Gun Numbers other than specialists) at Belchers Battery; Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables.

Friday, 7th Sept.—At 7.30 a.m. Belchers 6" Section (Gun Numbers as detailed) at Belchers Battery. At 5.30 p.m. Belchers 6" Section (Layers and Setters' class only) at Belchers Battery; Artillery Battery (Layers and Setters only) at Belchers Battery; Right Section M. G. Co., at Headquarters under unit Commander (Tests of Elementary Training). Recruits of all units on Murray Parade Ground under Corps. Grimes, Edgcombe and Edmonds and Lieut. Meade; Signalling Section "A" and "B" classes at Happy Valley (Heliograph and Flag Station work).

Saturday, 8th Sept.—At 7.10 a.m. Scouts Company (men detailed by Sergt. M. J. B. May) at Headquarters (Tests of Elementary Training). At 4.30 p.m. Special Parade at Headquarters for members of the Corps (Infantry) unable to attend drills ordered on 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th September. One N.C.O. from each unit sending men will attend.

Detail.

On duty 2nd September, Scouts Company; 3rd, Scouts Company; 4th, Right Section M. G. Company; 5th, Left Sec. M. G. Co.; Civil Ser. Company; 6th, Centre Section M. G. Company; 7th, Scouts Company; 8th, Scouts Company.

Orderly Officer from 2nd to 8th September, Lieut. R. E. Lindsell.

Postwoman Charged.

A postwoman, Annie Perry of Ashmount Road, Tottenham, was charged at Tottenham with stealing a 5d. postal order during postal transmission. The prosecution followed many complaints from wives of not receiving alimony which their husbands declared had been sent.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Sir Herbert Tree has followed professional precedent for a remarkable number of famous actors have died suddenly, and many of them amid appropriate dramatic surroundings. Baddeley died in Drury Lane Theatre, where he founded the "Twelfth Night Cakes." Palmer, Cummins, Harley, and Peterson all died on the stage after speaking emotionally felicitous last words. Edmund Keen broke down at the passage "Othello's occupation's gone"; and Phelps collapsed in Cardinal Wolsey's great speech, "Farewell, a long farewell." Within recent years there has been the tragically sudden death of Sir Henry Irving after speaking the dying words of Becket, "Into Thy hands, O Lord."

Among Sir Herbert Tree's services to literature and the bookellers may be counted the increased demand for Præd's works for which he was responsible. In his younger days he was fond of reciting at the Orlington and other clubs this poet's humorous masterpieces, "The Vicar" and "The Broomfield Head." And the entertainment invariably sent fellow members in search of copies of Præd's Poems. The bookellers in Holywell Street always knew by the brisk demand for the Victorian poet that "Mr. Tree had been reciting Præd again."

One of the most amazing examples of the right names in the right places occur in a Y. M. C. A. Hut in the South of Ireland, Miss Galley, the cook, is assisted by the Misses Gardner, Angling, and Joint. Either by accident or design these three graces are appointed respectively to the ministries of vegetables, fish, and meat. It sounds too fitting to be true, but is actually a sober coincidence.

Parisians remark on Pershing's likeness to their late popular General and Military Governor, Gallieni. The American Commander-in-Chief, they say, has the same alert and energetic face; in consequence, he is extremely sympathetic to them. There was a pretty little scene at the Opera Comique the other evening, when the General and his Staff attended a performance of the charming opera "Louise," which deals with scenes in a workgirl's life. Some "midwinties" who were present offered flowers to the visitors. "So you are not on strike this evening?" observed the General with a humorous twinkle. "There will be no strike whilst you and your soldiers are here," declared the young Parisienne, in the real spirit of the Boulevard.

Lord Pentland, who has accepted the official invitation to renew his term as Governor of Madras, would have found his stay in India pleasant had it not been for the light-headed Ender. Early in the autumn of 1914 he caught the Olan Grant and sank her, with £2,000 worth of books and engravings for the former Chief Secretary for Scotland. But that was not the first sacrifice of the Sinsinara of Dunbeath for the Dependency. Lord Pentland's father fought hard in the old Bengal army, and his uncle fell dead at the head of his men near Jhansi.

In these days of economy it would be interesting to know who is doing the most in the way of saving. One fond parent has a very clear conception of the first principles of economy. She has a little girl who dislikes a certain proprietary medicine, and can only be induced to take it by the gift of a penny per dose swallowed. These pennies mamma puts carefully away in a box, and when they reach a sufficient sum she takes them out and expends them upon another bottle of medicine for her little girl! But is that economy or diplomacy, or both?

Pit Shelters.

Many Nottinghamshire colliers were ordered to pay substantial damages by the magistrates at Nottingham for frequent absence from pits. It was complained that, although exempted from military duties, they failed to discharge their national responsibilities.

IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA.

The White House and World Patriotism.

The following article was contributed to the *Daily Chronicle* by Sir Herbert Tree shortly before his death:—

Washington has a dignity and an old-world character which seem to be the natural belongings of the Capitol. As the procession of the "Inauguration" of the new President passed down the wide streets on its way to the White House, one felt that the scene was appropriate to the historic pageant which has brought America into line with the other great nations of the world in the fight for international progress.

On the occasion of my visit to the White House, the Suffrage women were stationed outside like sentries, bearing flags. I wondered how the President of the United States could be so accessible without incurring considerable personal inconvenience; but I believe that the peaceful-looking attendants and the young men who appeared to be intent on the busy plying of the typewriter were formidable experts in the art of jiu-jitsu. Mr. Wilson has a gracious presence, and is gifted with the "grand manner"—that of making people feel at ease at once. "At eight," the President paid me the compliment of saying that I reminded him of a well-known English statesman. On my bowing with a deprecating self-consciousness, he remarked that he himself had often been told of his resemblance to the late Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. The likeness is indeed striking, though the President's nose lacks the aspiring tilt which characterized that of the distinguished English statesman.

After me came about 50 American citizens, all intent upon shaking hands with Mr. Wilson. I wondered whether there is an ailment known as "President's cramp." As I left the "presence," I could not help overhearing the whispered words of a well-known lady: "Mr. President, don't forget votes for women!" As I went through the gate in a down-pour of rain the women were relieving guard. The suffrage question is not regarded with such favour on the other side as it is here. But assuredly after the war, women in America as well as in the other countries, will demand that they shall by their votes be privileged to help veto the killing of their men.

America is a sudden country. She woke up one morning to find herself in the war. There was hardly any twilight in the awakening—she simply accepted the fact, and settled down to the business. The coming of Balfour and Joffre was a master-stroke. Both men were the right men at the right moment—it was their coming that lighted the prairie fire of popular enthusiasm. On the night before my departure the streets were packed with crowds waiting to see their French hero pass; the whole people seemed animated by the warlike spirit; flags waved from every window, the streets were bright with innumerable electric lights, the Allied anthems were played in all the theatres. Mr. Balfour appealed to the American people—perhaps because he was the most un-American thing in America.

General Joffre fills the limelight as to the manner born; he has the genius of putting little children on the head in the patriarchal manner. His nod is compelling; he has the genial flair that almost robs the war god of his terror. His eloquence has the rare trick of being monosyllabic. A delightful story illustrates his blinding bonhomie. A lady asked him at dinner to tell her in confidence what it really was that stopped the Germans on the Marne. Turning a beaming brow on his interlocutor, J. said, "C'est moi!"

There can be no doubt that England should send more such ambassadors to America. The two peoples want to know each other better. There has hitherto been a certain coldness between them. The supercilious manner of many an ancient Briton has caused some resentment in the past. The

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

Distinctions in Recent Examination.

We have received from Mr. E. Ralph, Director of the Hongkong Technical Institute, a long list of candidates who were successful at the examinations. Those who secured distinctions are as follows:—

Shorthand:—Speed 80 words a minute: S. A. Imaizumi, A. O. Madar, U. M. Omar. Stage B: Gertrude E. Stubbings, J. H. Roza, Lillian J. D. Haynes, Choy Sai-pin, Ohak Tai-kwong, Ohan Kai-boog. Intermediate: Mercedes M. Coelhe, Kong Yuk-tong, Tang Shu-sham. Elementary: Liang Tsung.

Mathematics:—Stage 1: Chan Mo-tong, Lau Ying-cheung, G. S. Rodger, Wong Tai-on. Stage 2: H. Charrington, Hoi King-him, To Yur-chang.

Teachers (women):—Stage 1: Poon San-han, To Kwan-long. Stage 3: Un Pak-sun.

Versacular teachers (women):—Stage 1: Cheung Pui Yiu. Stage 2: Lam Kwan-ying.

English:—Stage 1: J. Khan. Stage 2: Lau Shu-chuen, Kwok Wan-hung. Stage 3: Ohu Ksm-tin.

Physics:—Stage 1: Fan Shu-ching, Wu Min.

Book-keeping:—Stage 1: Lai Chi-wa, E. J. R. Sutton. Stage 2: Kwok Wan-hung.

Chemistry (Practical):—Stage 1: W. H. Kylling.

Architectural Design:—Stage 1: Ng Ping-on.

French:—Stage 1: P. A. Yvanovitch. Stage 2: H. W. White, K. H. Wong.

Victoria Theatre.

Owing to the renovation of the above Theatre, the management regrets that they were unable to show at the 9.15 performance last night. To-night "The Shielding Shadow" (in 4 parts) will be screened.

Americans are a very personal people, and they enjoy being exploited; they revel in their hospitality, they love a "lion." There are a number of men who have done the State fine service by spreading the message of Great Britain; among these are Sir Gilbert Parker, who has lately visited California, and whose steady and persistent work is recognized on all sides, Ian Hay, whose lectures are enormously popular, and Lord Aberdeen, who has the healing touch in dealing with the Irish question. But I cannot help thinking that more frequent visits of England's great men would have the effect of permanently cementing the friendship between the two nations.

One must remember that old grudge of the war of liberation, and one must not ignore the Irish question, which at one time threatened the welcome to the British Commission. Many of the foremost Irish leaders have thrown themselves heart and soul into the Allied cause, just as many of its staunchest and most determined upholders have been men of German birth or German descent.

Since I have been home, I have often been asked the question whether the Americans realise the seriousness of the war and are determined to throw themselves whole-heartedly into it. My belief is, that they do realise to the full the meaning of the solemn pledge into which they have entered; they realise that the present war is to be or not to be of the freedom of the world. The very latest pronouncement of the President gives noble utterance to this spirit which has seized the whole nation. It is no longer a question of politics. It is no longer a question of the Star Spangled Banner. In this great hour a new note has been struck—the note of world-patriotism.

The more politician has his ear to the ground—how should he hear the message of the Stars? The President went up into the mountain heights where dwells the soul of the American people; there he learned the message of the Stars; and when he came down from the mountain, he bore with him a tablet on which were given the words:—

"The Right is more precious than Power."

THE FRAWLEY CO.



MR. T. DANIEL FRAWLEY, who takes a leading part in "Bought and Paid For," which will be staged at the Theatre Royal to-morrow.

THEATRE ROYAL.

Another Frawley Company Success.

There was not a dull moment last night when the Frawley Company presented "Twin Beds"—a three act farce, overflowing with merriment. It is, in fact, one of the drollest plays Hongkong playgoers have had the pleasure of witnessing for many years. The title, with its somewhat "spicy" smock, promised well, but the realisation was truly better than the anticipation. In yesterday's issue we referred in detail to the play, and it is therefore unnecessary to say more than that the complications—and there are many of them, all of a most ingenious and mirth-provoking nature—go to the making of a play that is unquestionably one of the most amusing of its kind. Last night's large audience was entertained delightfully, as was evident by the frequent outbursts of spontaneous laughter that were to be heard throughout the evening. We can well understand why it was that this farce was played nightly for fully a year in New York, and it is most diverting. Mr. Homer Barton, as Signor Monti, was responsible for most of the fun. He sustained his part with great ability and evoked hearty laughter. His drollery, on his return in the early hours after an apparently very gay time, and on his entering the wrong apartment and proceeding to occupy one of the twin beds, was extremely good. Miss Cordelia Hauger was delightful as Blanche Hawkins, playing the part of a charmingly attractive young wife overfond of male admiration, daintily and cleverly. Miss Eva Lung was also very successful as the sorely tried wife of Signor Monti, and Miss Valentine Sidney made quite a good part out of the small role of the Irish servant Nora. Miss Annette Tyler, as Amanda Larkin, was also a conspicuous success in her comparatively small part. Mr. John Halliday, as Harry Larkin, was splendid. He is a very fine actor with a style and a manner of speech that is particularly attractive. Mr. Reynolds Denniston, as Andrew Larkin, also did what was required of him, and did it well.

"Twin Beds" will be repeated to-night and should attract a large audience.

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QUEEN'S ROAD ROBBERY. A SCOTTISH SHIP CANAL.

A Criminal Sessions Case.

The August Criminal Sessions were resumed at the Supreme Court this morning before Sir William Ross Davies (Chief Justice).

The only case down for hearing was one in which Kwong Tip and Kwong Nam were charged on an indictment with robbery with violence at 259, Queen's Road Central, on July 7.

Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted, and the first prisoner was represented by Mr. O. G. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. F. X. D'Almada.

Both prisoners pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The jury were empanelled as follows:—Messrs. V. Goldborn, F. F. Duckworth, F. H. Farns, J. G. Aquino, E. J. de S. Loureiro, A. Baptista and M. A. de Santos.

The facts of the case were outlined by Mr. Wakeman, who stated that on July 6 the first prisoner, with another man, who was not in Court, went to the house of Queen's Road Central and asked the woman occupier about some cabinets which she had to let.

There was some discussion that day on what the price should be, but no business was done.

The following day, the two prisoners and the other man again went to the house, when a further discussion took place. At the time the woman's daughter was in the kitchen and heard the bargaining going on.

The woman went on to the verandah, but was called back by the men, who set upon her when she entered the room again and binding and gagging her they stole from her jewellery to the value of some \$70 odd dollars.

About this time, the husband returned home, and, hearing something strange going on inside the room, looked through some grating and there saw his wife on the floor, bound and gagged. He ran down the steps, shouting for assistance and a police whistle was blown.

He also heard the first prisoner say "Run!" The two prisoners were arrested as they were leaving the house by a detective and a neighbour.

BAD MORTAR.

A Chinese Contractor Fined.

A Chinese building contractor was summoned before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, for using bad mortar.

Mr. Edwards, of the Public Works Department, said that a large retaining wall was being erected on Kennedy Road. He took samples of the mortar being used and later tested it. One sample broke at a tensile strain of 19½ lbs. and the other under a strain of 25½ lbs. The standard required was 30 lbs.

Defendant said he had given instructions to the workmen as to how much cement and lime to use.

Mr. Edwards said the lime was not measured. It was left to the mixing coolie to use what he thought was right.

His Worship told the contractor that he would have to take more precautions. A fine of \$20 was imposed.

Unofficial Plans Discussed.

At a meeting in Edinburgh recently, plans for a Mid-Scotland ship canal, prepared by a firm of Glasgow engineers, were considered. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Corporations of Edinburgh and Glasgow and the Convention of Burghs. It was stated that there was reason to believe that the Government were contemplating the construction of a canal via Loch Lomond, and it was agreed to send the plans now before the meeting to the Admiralty before a definite decision was made by the Government.

The terminals for the Glasgow firm's suggested route are Clydebank and Grangemouth, the distance being 35½ miles, as against 85½ miles via Loch Lomond. The direct route, it was further pointed out, would be practically at sea level, and it could be lighted easily, so that the canal might be utilised by night.

Some years ago the probable cost was estimated at twenty-five millions, but it would now, of course, be very much more.

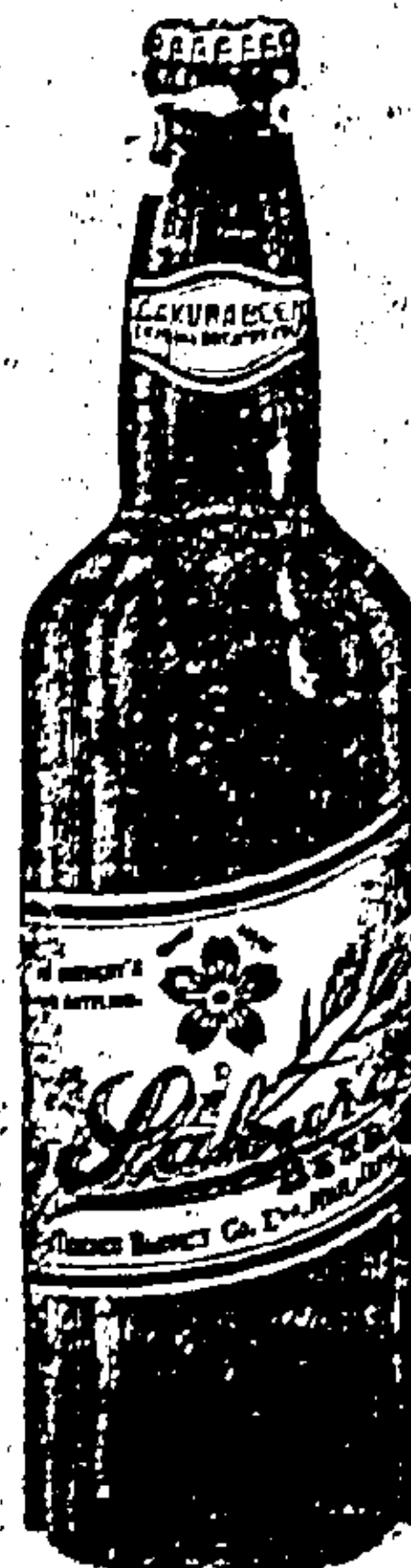
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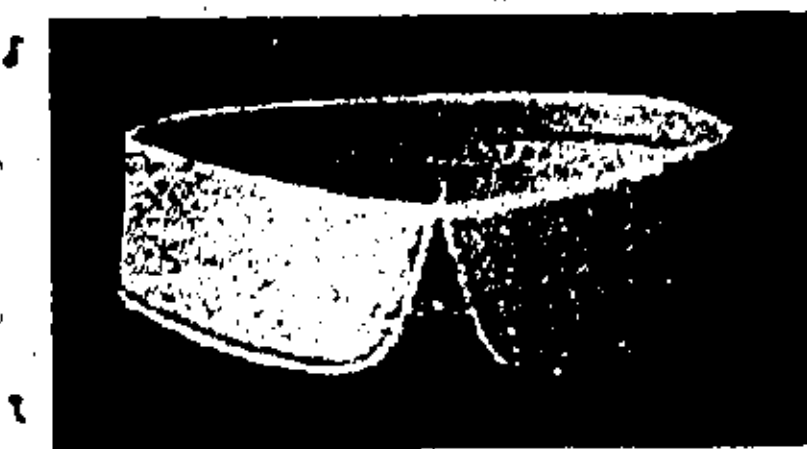
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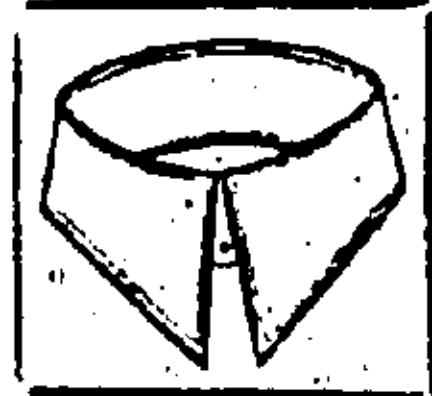


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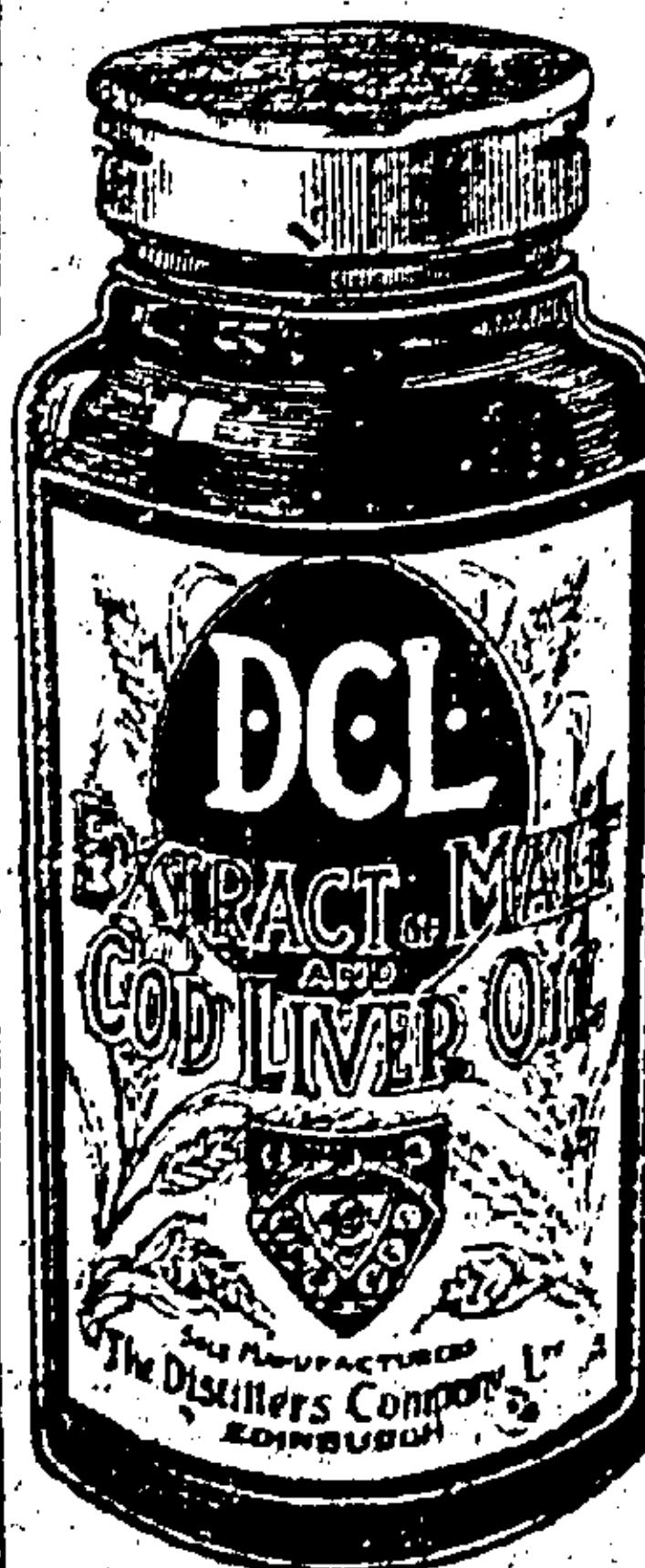
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"SAN FRANCISCO LINE"

VIA SHANGHAI, THE INLAND SEA, JAPAN & HONOLULU.

Steamers.	Tons.	Leave Hongkong.
SHIRYO MARU	22,000	7th Sept.
PERIA MARU	9,000	22nd Sept.
KOBE MARU	18,000	5th Oct.
SISERIA MARU	18,000	15th Oct.
TEYO MARU	22,000	25th Oct.
NIPPON MARU	31,000	10th Nov.

The S.S. "NIPPON MARU" and S.S. "PERIA MARU" only call at Shanghai.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

HONGKONG TO VALPARAISO VIA JAPAN, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALTINO CRUZ, BALBOA, CALLAO, ARICA AND IQUIQUE.

THENCE BY TRANS ANDIAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

Steamers: ARYO MARU 18,500 tons; KIVO MARU 17,300 tons; SEITO MARU 14,000 tons.

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Monthly Service between
MANILA, HONGKONG AND SAN FRANCISCO.
Next sailings for SAN FRANCISCO via NAGASAKI.
Subject to change without Notice.Sailing from Hongkong to San Francisco.
S.S. Arakan 16th Sept. S.S. Bintang 17th Nov.
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ALL STEAMERS Fitted WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.
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SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamers.	To Sail.
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SWATOW & BANGKOK	Linan	2nd Sept. at 10 a.m.
MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO	Teian	2nd Sept. at noon.
SHANGHAI	Sunning	4th Sept. at 4 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Shantung	6th Sept. at 4 p.m.

DIRECT SAILINGS TO WEST RIVER, Twice Weekly.

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MANILA LINE.—TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS. Excellent Saloon accommodation. Amidsips; Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms.

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For Freight or Passage apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Telephone No. 36.

Hongkong August 30, 1917.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Regular Fortnightly Service between
CHINA and JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Tjitaroom		in port	2nd Sept.	Amoy, S'hai & Kobe
Tjiliwong		31st Aug.	15th Sept.	Kobe, Y'hama & Shanghai
Tjibodas		12th Sept.	23rd Sept.	
Tjimanock		22nd Sept.		

The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia.

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Regular Service of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for first Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in state-rooms and Saloon and Excellent Cuisine.
FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW AND RETURN.
(Occupying 7 to 10 days.)

Steamships.	Captain	Leaving.
Haihong...	J. W. Evans	TUES. 4th Sept., at noon.
Haitan ...	A. E. Hodgins	FRI. 7th Sept., at noon.

FOR SWATOW.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

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General Managers.INDO-CHINA STEAM
NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(Projected Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to Alteration).

For	Steamship	On
MANILA	Loongsang	Sat., 1st Sept. at 3 p.m.
HAIPHONG via Hoibow	Loksang	Sun., 2nd Sept. at 7 a.m.
SHANGHAI	Wingsang	Wed., 5th Sept. at d'light.
MANILA	Yuensang	Sat., 8th Sept. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE.—Three sailings per month from Hongkong to Calcutta calling at Singapore and Penang.

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Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kadat, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Labad Dam. TIENTSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin calling at Weihaiwei and Chefoo.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Cotton Market.

Messrs. Robert Barbour & Brother, Ltd., write in their monthly market report for June:—Cotton has without a doubt completely dominated everything else during the past month and provided within the small compass of a few days a run of sensational advances scarcely dreamed of as within the bounds of possibility by the people of this generation. The forcing up of prices at the end of May proved to be more than a mere repetition of end-of-the-month pressure and as soon as work resumed after the Witsundide holiday signs were not wanting of the approach of serious disturbance. The first note of real alarm was sounded by the United States Government Report, published on June 1, showing the condition of the new crop as 60.5—the lowest figure on record. Compared with 77.5 last year and 80 the previous one, the announcement was far worse than had been anticipated and the market was suddenly awakened to a realization of the probability of a real scarcity of the raw material. We had all been in a false paradise it seemed. From 14.53 at the close of May, spot cotton, following in the wake of future, was 15.51 on June 8, 16.65 on the 12th, 17.35 on the 13th, 18.00 on the 18th, and 19.37 on the 19th. At this point the Government stepped in and the Liverpool Futures Market was closed until the 29th ult., reopening under new conditions by the directors of the Liverpool Cotton Association with a view to discouraging further cotton speculation. A Board of Control was also appointed consisting of representative employers and employees with full powers to act in all matters vital to the interests of the trade such as rationing, short time, fixing of prices, and apportionment of spindles allowed to be run. There is good reason for believing that the amount of cotton actually available is sufficient for ordinary trade requirements, but it is unfortunately very largely on the other side with no storage available to bring it across. This is really the crux of the whole position and the best relief of all would be the arrival in Liverpool of a fleet of cotton ships. Until the panic buying of futures began there were indications of a renewed demand for cloth. India was doing a little in light fabrics and was expected to do more on the strength of favourable monsoon reports. Stocks of piece goods in China were down to an abnormally low figure, but high prices and further political unrest were hampering free movement toward replacement. Egypt was a steady buyer, Java and Singapore were moving, and other markets were beginning to supply evidences of a desire to replenish their dwindling holdings. Makers of heavy goods keep busy with Government contracts, but in most districts production is still waiting on demand and grey shirtings in particular continue woefully neglected. The prohibition in respect of wood cases has thrown such a tremendous strain on bale presses that it is not so much a lack of steamers but rather the inability to get goods packed up that is now the chief difficulty. In goods the phenomenal position in the cotton market brought matters to a crisis and Liverpool was closed for a week or more. Quotations have been largely withheld, but the following nominal prices will be noted with interest. Medium China, 16 by 15 1/2 lbs., 17s. 6d.; 19 by 15 lbs., 19s. 6d.

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Death of Col. Cornwallis-West.

The death is announced of Col. William Cornwallis-West, which occurred at Bathin Castle. Born in 1835, Col. Cornwallis-West was the grandson of the second Earl De La Warr, from whom he inherited a fine estate in Dorsetshire. In 1872 he married a daughter of Rev. Frederick Fitzpatrick, who was then only 18, and who rapidly became one of the leaders of society and a fashionable beauty. At the beginning of this year Mrs. Cornwallis-West's name came before the public as the "Lady in the Oak." Mr. George Cornwallis-West, who succeeded to the estate, was first married to Lady Randolph Churchill, and afterwards to Mrs. Patrick Campbell. Of the two daughters of the marriage the elder is Princess of Pleign and the younger the Duchess of Westminster.

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH EXTRA

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1917.

MILITARY SERVICE BILL PASSED.

TO-DAY'S DISCUSSION IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

HIS EXCELLENCY ON THE FAILURE OF THE VOLUNTARY SYSTEM.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council this afternoon, the Military Service Bill came up for its second reading. An amended Bill was presented, embodying clauses making members of the Corps, when performing military duties, entitled to pay and allowances at the same rate as members of His Majesty's Regular Forces and that the Ordinance should continue in force until six months after the conclusion of war. There were other minor amendments made.

The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., addressing the Council, said he was not aified that a sufficient case had been made out for compulsory service at all here. Only a few weeks ago the Secretary of State for the Colonies congratulated them upon the fact that voluntary service in the Colony had led to very good results. Civil residents in the Colony had come forward ungrudgingly with offers of service, and he thought that compulsion was not necessary. The improvement in the organisation of the existing forces and their fusion could have been brought about by a simple measure, like that passed in the Straits Settlements last year. He proceeded to consider various details in the Bill, dealing first with the question of the ages of those liable to serve. He thought that the age of 55 was too high, for they found that the Imperial measure at Home only included persons between the ages of 18 and 41. In the Straits Settlements, although the age was 55, only those between the ages of 18 and 40 were called up for military service, those above that age being used as a Civil Guard entirely under the control of the police. He thought that with the climate prevailing in Hongkong the age-limit should be reduced to 45. Speaking on Clause 6 of the Bill, by which it is provided that the Army Act shall apply to all members of the Defence Corps, he said that the Imperial Parliament was very loth to impose the Army Act for any long or indefinite period. It was only applied from year to year, but in this instance it was applied for the very uncertain and indefinite period of the war. He thought it would be sufficient if in this Colony the Army Act was made to apply in just the same way as it now applied under section 18 of the Volunteer Corps Ordinance. As the Bill affected such a great proportion of the residents of the Colony, he thought that the ordinary civil rights of the subject should not be interfered with, and no doubt a considerable part of the apprehension which existed in regard to the Bill was in respect of that matter. He would, at the right stage, move, an amendment to the effect that nothing contained in the Ordinance or regulations would be deemed to take away the ordinary civil rights of members of the Hongkong Defence Corps, including rights of *habeas corpus*, the right of freedom to attend a public meeting, the right to freely criticise Government measures, the right to write to the newspapers and the right of jointly or separately petitioning for the redress of any grievance. It seemed necessary that such provision should be included. On Clause 8, that which gave the Governor-in-Council power to make regulations, he was still of the opinion that such matters should be laid before the Legislative Council. As a compromise, he suggested that the Governor-in-Council should frame the regulations, but that they should be subject to the approval of the Legislative Council so that Unofficial Members representing the public could have the right of criticism.

Speaking on Clause 10, he argued that service in the Hongkong Defence Corps should be deemed continuous service for the gaining of a Volunteer Long Service Decoration. The Attorney General, he understood, had some difficulty on that point, as he contended that the granting of medals was an act of Royal favour. But this was not a special Royal favour, and there were certain regulations passed and still in force with regard to Long Service Medals and he thought it should be clearly stated in the Bill that service in the Corps would be counted as continuous. He had received a communication with reference to the counting of such service of ex-Army or Naval men and he would lay that before His Excellency the Governor through the proper channel. He also suggested that the word "only" should be inserted in Clause 11 before the words "until the expiration of a period of six months from the conclusion of the present war," so as to make it undoubtedly clear as to the length of period the Bill would apply for. Mr. Pollock then went on to speak of the regulations, saying that at the present time a good deal of waste of time was characteristic of the working of the forces. The majority of residents here were engaged in what the Prime Minister would call making silver bullets far more usefully than they could be by being employed as men of the garrison. His Excellency stated, on August 2 that compulsory service for local defence should be brought to such a pitch that it might lead to the reduction of the garrison, but he personally thought that that was a wrong ideal to aim at. They all knew the office of the Colony were working on considerably reduced staff and that many of the men had been out in the Colony for six or seven years without going Home. He was convinced that both the Reserves and Volunteers would co-operate as loyally as they could, but there were limits to physical endurance, and a man could hardly be expected to be an efficient soldier by night and an efficient business man by day. In the regular forces a man on duty at night could rest by day, and vice versa, but a civilian performing military duties had combined duties to bear. He therefore ventured to hope that it would be borne in mind that it was impossible to burn the candle at both ends. With regard to musketry practice, he deemed that the most essential part. He went on to speak of how a body of men had in the past been summoned to the butts and how it had been impossible for all to shoot, with the result that there was a great waste of time. He hoped that in the future that kind of thing could be avoided. As regarded the number of drills, the happy Colony of Ceylon decreed 45 drills a year, sufficient to give a man a sufficient merit, but in this Bill 50 drills were made compulsory. He thought that was a point that should be considered. With regard to camps, eight days was too long for certain persons, and he understood that the regulations had been amended to provide for the instances he had in mind.

The Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton supported the Bill, saying that His Excellency the General Officer Commanding stated a few months ago that the object of war was to ensure peace, but there was also a saying more apt—that the best way to ensure peace was to prepare for war. Great Britain had gone through a painful and terrible experience owing to military unpreparedness, and he had seen in the newspapers a letter saying that if this Bill were passed it would impose upon

Hongkong the military evil they were at present fighting to kill. He did not think it would do anything of the sort. German militarism was an aggressive militarism, but this Bill was simply a measure of defence. With regard to the regulations, they did not appear to be at all onerous, but no doubt they would be considered fully and would be agreed to.

The Hon. Mr. S. H. DeWitt said that the objection of the Chamber of Commerce had been removed by the Bill being made only applicable for six months after the duration of the war. He went on to say that whatever reorganisation might be necessary the aim should be maximum efficiency with a minimum call on the time of the men. His experience in the Reserves had been that whatever degree of efficiency had been reached it had not always been reached with a minimum of time. He spoke of having been called to King's Park range from 3.15 to 3.30 and spending the rest of the afternoon just to fire ten rounds, or, on one occasion, even. That was an absolutely unnecessary waste of time, and he hoped such things would be avoided.

The Hon. Attorney General, replying to the objections raised, said that in the case of Home, the age-limit of 18 to 41 was to provide for an offensive Army against a most highly-trained force. Strenuous and severe fighting was necessary, but in this Colony there would be no such and sought. Such a force as the Defence Corps had a very restricted field to call upon, and it was desirable to make it as large as possible. The modified training that those above the age of 45 would be expected to do practically coincided with the conditions which prevailed at Singapore. That the Army Act at Home only applied from year to year was by reason of an old custom, and it also gave an annual opportunity for the revision of the measure and was also useful as a lever by which an unpopular Government might be compelled to resign, for if a Government failed to renew the Army Act, discipline in the Army would be gone and it would be forced to resign. In Hongkong there was no fear, he thought, of civil liberties being interfered with, because ever since the war broke out the Reserves and Volunteers had been subject to that Act. Rights of *habeas corpus*, meetings and of criticism had been exercised from time to time and without question. There was no fear that any change would be made. With regard to decoration for long Volunteer service, he did not think that it was within the province of that Council to make any regulation. It was a matter upon which His Excellency the Governor could make a recommendation if he thought fit. He had no objection to the word "only" being inserted in the last clause.

His Excellency the Governor, speaking on Mr. Pollock's point as to whether compulsory military service was necessary, said there was a great deal of discussion in the Colony some time ago as to whether they were doing their duty in the matter of taking their part in this great war. His own feeling, frankly, was to make the Volunteer forces as strong as possible and reduce the garrison as much as possible, and so release fighting men for the front. Discussion led to the appointment of the Military Commission, and that went further than he did and recommended compulsory service for military duties outside the Colony. Both those propositions went to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and he favoured compulsory service in order to enable every available man to come forward and do his duty and permit of a reduction of the garrison. On August 2, he said that the military authorities did not contemplate any further reduction of the garrison, but since that time they had had reason

to reconsider their decision, and application had been made to his gallant friend, the General, for further units from the already depleted garrison. Now, he asked, had the volunteer system given them every single man they ought to get? He was sorry to say no. There were a certain number of persons who had absolutely refused to come forward. He did not want to point to it, but it was only right that he should mention that they had not got all they could get under a voluntary system. They had not been going under an entirely voluntary system, for gentle persuasion had been applied. Under the Registration of Persons Ordinance, the Police had instructions to send monthly returns to his office of all new-comers who had not joined the Volunteers. They wrote to those persons and asked them to join. In December, 1915, he interviewed 75 persons at Government House, but confessed that many were medically unfit and the others had to be exempted for business reasons. In September, 1916, 45 letters were sent out, asking people why and wherefore they had not joined, and as late as January last, 22 letters went out. He had a list before him of persons who had not joined, which would probably have formed a basis of the first summonses of this new Bill. Those were hard facts, and a compulsory measure was necessary, even if there was one recalcitrant man who had not joined, especially when by doing his duty he would be releasing fighting men to go to the front. The Hon. Mr. Pollock had mentioned that civilian persons were better employed making silver bullets than doing night work which made them unfit for day work, but that night work did not amount to very much, as owing to the numerical strength of the local corps it meant one night's work in about seven or eight weeks. He did not think that that would do a great deal of harm, and he also did not believe that any man would unwillingly do it. As regards decorations for long service, he had written Home asking for service under the Bill to be counted as continuous. He would let them know the nature of the reply.

The Council then went into Committee and considered the Bill stage by stage.

On Clause 6, Mr. Pollock said he would like the Government to give an undertaking that the civilian rights of members would be respected, and His Excellency the Governor replied that they would not depart from the policy they had adopted in the past.

On Clause 8, Mr. Pollock raised the point again about the regulations being approved by the Legislative Council, saying he did not think it would impose a great deal of work upon the Council.

No action was taken.

Mr. Pollock added that in view of the Government's pledge in respect to civilian rights, he would not move the amendment he had intended to move.

Without further discussion, the Bill was read a second and third time and passed.

Sale of Enemy Property.

Under instructions from the Liquidator of Messrs. Reuter Brockelmann and Co., F.A.A.B. Brockelmann, E. R. Fehrmann, Heinrich Heyn and the Estate of E.O.L. Reuter, deceased, two lots of leasehold property were sold at the auction rooms of Messrs. Hughes and Hough this afternoon. The first lot, being Island Lots 611 and 662, together with godown at 125, Wanchai Road, fetched \$27,000, while Lot 2, comprising Island Lots 612 and 663, together with godown at 127, Wanchai Road, was sold for \$22,000. The purchasers in each instance were Chinese. Messrs. Deason, Looker, Deason and Harston were the solicitors concerned.

CONSIGNEES

1992

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

THE ITALIAN SUCCESSES.

Further Progress and More Prisoners.

A wireless Italian official message states: Having overcome the enemy rearwards on Bainsizza Plateau we are attacking a powerful line which the enemy is defending desperately. We made progress on the heights eastward of Gorizia and took prisoner yesterday a thousand. 246 aeroplanes participated in the battle. A squadron of forty dropped seven thousand kilograms of projectiles on the enemy's batteries at Panorizza Wood.

Austrians Admit Italian Superiority.

A wireless Austrian official message states: A superior enemy forced us to evacuate the height near Soveja. Austro-Germans captured positions on the Dalmaz taking prisoner 1,000. In the ten days' battle of Bainsizza our unbroken resistance proved us to be the victors despite the Italian superiority.

INCREASED INSURANCE RATES FOR EASTERN CARGO.

In consequence of certain heavy losses the underwriters have substantially advanced insurance rates on cargo to the East via the Cape.

STANDARDISED SHIPBUILDING.

The first of the standardized ships designed to quickly replace ships submerged has been completed. Her final tests and trial, though carried out in rough weather, resulted in an unqualified success. The vessel, comprising her standardized hull, machinery and engine, was constructed in five months. The programme includes four classes ranging from 3,000 to 5,000 tons dead-weight carrying capacity. All the principal shipbuilding establishments are busy engaged in the construction of standardized ships. Speed is being given special attention.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: The weather is stormy. We drove off a bombing attack eastward of Oost Taverne. A French communiqué says: The artillery is reciprocally most active in the region of Hurlbise Monument and on both sides of the Meuse.

THE PRICE OF BREAD.

The Press Bureau announces that the price of the quarter loaf will be ninepence after the 17th October.

AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY STRIKE ENDED.

The railway strike has ended and the question of wages is being arbitrated.

NO UNANIMITY AT LABOUR CONFERENCE.

The Inter-Allied Conference has concluded. Nothing was accomplished owing to the absence of unanimity in regard to the reports presented. It was decided to hold another Allied Conference in preparation for the Stockholm Congress.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR.

Major Macdonald's Son Killed.

It is with extreme regret that we announce the death of Captain Alexander Lindsay Macdonald, M.C., youngest son of Major Donald Macdonald, V.D., Commandant of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, who was killed in action on the 28th instant, the news having been received in the Colony today. The deceased, who was only 19 years of age, was born in Hongkong, and he left the Colony in 1904 in order to be educated at home, going to Bedford College. He would have been twenty years of age if he had lived till November 5 next. The deceased officer passed through Sandhurst early in 1915, was later given the rank of Lieutenant in the Black Watch and was later appointed to the Royal Flying Corps. He had been engaged in flying in France for the past eighteen months and in the early part of the present year he won the Military Cross.

Great sympathy will be felt for Major and Mrs. Macdonald, the latter of whom is at present in London, in the deep bereavement they have suffered. Their eldest son, H. C. Macdonald, is a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, while their daughter is married to Commander Pope, R.N., who was at one time engaged in the submarine service in Hongkong.

Promenade Concert.

The public is reminded of the promenade concert which takes place at North Point to-morrow. The Police Reserve Band is providing the music.

CANTON NEWS.

Scheme for Interning Enemy Subjects.

Our Canton correspondent writes under date of August 30 as follows:

In reply to the Tachun's official notice to abolish the bodyguards of the Civil Governor, the Chan King-ming has stated that the 20 battalions of these troops have been changed into naval infantry in compliance with the suggestions of Sun Yat-sen, Chan Bing-lan, Cheng Pik-kwong, and Commander Lam, and that the name of bodyguards no longer exists.

Chu Hing-lan, on the day of his departure, wired to Luk Wing-tung that the South and West Provinces must unite, that his presence in Canton has not remedied the situation, and that he was leaving in the hope that Luk would immediately control military affairs.

The Provincial Authority has received instructions from the Ministry of War that an internment camp for enemy subjects at present in the coast ports is intended to be established in Hankow, and there a list of the names and full descriptions of the enemy's subjects in Kwangtung Province should be made and sent to the Ministry so that it may be decided who shall be interned there.

On the refusal of Wu Hon-man to accept the Civil Governor's post, the Tachun asked Li Fu-hon, the Defence Commissioner of Sui Hing and Yang Kong, to act as Civil Governor. Li refused at first, but after the assurance of Sun Yat-sen that there would be no objection by the Kuomintang party, he accepted the post.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber this afternoon, when those present were:

H. E. the Governor — (Sir Francis Henry May, K.C.M.G.)
H. E. the General Officer Commanding the Troops, (Major General F. Ventria.)

The Hon. Mr. Cland S. verna, Colonial Secretary.

The Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, Attorney General.

The Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G., Director of Public Works.

The Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

The Hon. the Captain Superintendent of Police and acting Colonial Treasurer (Mr. C. Mc-Messer.)

The Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, C.M.G.

The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.

The Hon. Mr. C. E. Aston.

The Hon. Mr. R. Shewan.

The Hon. Mr. Lee Onn Pak.

The Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell.

Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher, (Clerk of Councils.)

Mr. A. R. Lowe was present in the public seats.

The following financial minutes, recommended by H. E. the Governor, were referred to the Finance Committee:

A sum of £135,000 in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Miscellaneous, dredging harbour.

A sum of £15,400 in aid of the vote Harbour Master's Department, D.—steam launches, other charges, repairs.

Cheung Chau and Typhoons.

The Hon. Mr. Pollock asked:

1. What was the number of (i) Junk; (ii) Other vessels or boats; which were damaged at or off Cheung Chau (Dumb-bell Island) in the recent typhoon of the 13th August, and what does the pecuniary loss represented by such damage come to approximately?

2. What are the present means adopted for communicating to the Police at Cheung Chau the fact that certain typhoon signals have been hoisted in Hongkong? Is it not practicable to improve such means of communication?

3. Are the Police at Cheung Chau provided with typhoon signals and, if not, will the Government consider the advisability of such provision being made?

The Hon. Colonial Secretary replied as follows:

1. Four licensed fishing junks were wrecked or damaged, to the extent of \$2,630. Nine licensed harbour boats under 100 piculs capacity were reported wrecked or damaged to the extent of \$578.

Several other small harbour boats were swamped or otherwise slightly damaged, but such was not reported to the Police.

2. There is no telephone communication with Cheung Chau. On the afternoon of the 12th August, No. 1 Police Launch called and reported red signals hoisted in Hongkong. The same information was given by the ferry launch at 5 p.m. The Chinese boat population knew a typhoon was about and were prepared to a certain extent, but the gale veered round later in the day and blew directly into the harbour, causing the boats to drag their anchors. There was no loss of life reported.

3. The Police have no typhoon signals. Unless it is certain that information can always be obtained of orders for the hoisting of typhoon signals, it is best not to hoist them at all.

Military Service Bill.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill intitled An Ordinance to make provision with respect to military service and to provide for the establishment, maintenance and control of a local defence corps.

The Council was debating the Bill as we went to press. A report of the discussion will appear in a later edition.

Field Glass Fund.

One pair of binoculars from Mr. S. L. Hidden, of Whitesway Laidlaw and Co., Ltd., Hongkong, is now to be added to the list of treasures received for forwarding to the Manager of the Lady Roberts Field Glass Fund.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

THE SERVICE DOLLAR.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—The grievances of the Service men have now been sufficiently well ventilated in the Press to warrant some other action being taken than what has already been done, as constant reiteration of these grievances is now practically useless, and the matter should be put forward on a business-like basis.

Beyond the despatch of cablegrams from certain institutions and persons, no action of an official character has been made by the Hongkong Colonial Authorities.

I would suggest that a Committee be formed of four of the leading business men in this Colony. This Committee should present to H. E. the Governor and the Legislative Council a clear and concise statement of the facts showing the hardships inflicted to Service men and their families by the increasing rate of the dollar, and put forward a proposal that service men be paid at a maximum rate of 2%, the difference between this rate and the rate as fixed by the Service Authorities being made good from the Military contribution of the Colony. The proposal to be retrospective for three months.

The delay at Home in dealing with the matter is no doubt due to insufficient information and knowledge of the situation, and as the money involved is a large sum, until it is taken up officially by the Hongkong Authorities, it is doubtful if any speedy action will be taken by the Imperial Treasury Authorities, to whom all such matters would probably be referred to.

The whole affair could be dealt with within a week here and the result reported to the Imperial Authorities as to the action taken.

Yours etc.

ZEDEX.

Hongkong, Aug. 31, 1917.

THIEF CAPTURED.

Arrested before Loss was Reported.

The story of how the police captured a thief as he about to leave the Colony, and before the theft was discovered, was told to Mr. Dyer Ball at the Magistracy this morning.

Crown Sergeant Blackman said that at four o'clock yesterday morning the defendant climbed a water spout by the side of No. 30, Praya East and succeeded in getting on to the verandah of No. 32. He entered the house and stole a gold watch and chain, together with gold-mounted bangles and money, of the total value of \$249.20. Later in the morning, he was about to board the s.s. Heungshan for Canton, but a looking searched him first. Sergeant Fallon was called, and the man was taken to the Police Station.

Soon afterwards, a report was received from Wanchai that the theft had been made and the owner of the articles identified them and said that nothing was missing.

It was proved that the defendant had a previous conviction for larceny in 1911, after which he was banished.

His Worship passed sentence of six months' hard labour.

INTERESTING CASE.

Alleged Trespass by Landlords.

An interesting case was mentioned in the Summary Court this morning, before Mr. Justice Gompertz, in which Percy Teetser is claiming from V. O. Bellios and others the sum of \$1,000.

Mr. O. Bolmer Johnson appeared for plaintiffs and defendants were represented by Mr. Mattingley.

The plaintiff's claim is for \$1,000, being damages for trespass by the defendants upon the premises of No. 63, Mount Kellet Road, The Peak, Hongkong, while in the occupation of the plaintiff as tenant of the defendant, and/or in the alternative for nuisance caused by the defendants during the said tenancy, and/or in the alternative for breach of an implied covenant for quiet enjoyment during the said tenancy, and/or in the alternative for derogation of the defendants as landlords from their grant of the tenancy of the said premises to the plaintiff.

The defendants are sued as trustees of the estate of Emmanuel Raphael Bellios, deceased.

The case was adjourned for a week.

EXCLUSION OF GERMANS.

His Excellency's Despatch on the Subject.

At this afternoon's meeting of the Legislative Council there was laid on the table a batch of correspondence relating to the commercial and industrial policy to be adopted throughout the Empire after the war. This included a lengthy statement by the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce of the policy it favoured under several headings, and another letter from the same body to Mr. C. H. Ross, who represented the Chamber on the British Imperial Council of Commerce, advising him of the views of the Chamber.

There was also included a despatch from His Excellency the Governor to the Secretary of State on the questions raised. From this despatch we take the following:

"The question of trade marks belonging to enemy firms has been the subject of correspondence. Any change of policy which commands itself to His Majesty's Government in the matter will no doubt be communicated to me."

"The Chamber refer next to the exclusion of enemy subjects, the question with which, as regards German subjects at least, they appear to be principally concerned; and there is no doubt that their views on the subject have the strong support of the large majority of European residents, and perhaps of some of the Chinese community. The very strong feeling which undoubtedly exists on the subject is due partly to the abhorrence of German methods of warfare and partly to objection to German methods of trading. Concerning the latter point, the opinion of the representative of the Chamber as expressed in the Legislative Council, voicing as it does that of the British Commercial community, will no doubt receive your most careful consideration; and, if any practicable means can be devised for insisting on the local import trade being conducted on a cash basis, the Government is ready and willing to adopt it. But I cannot suggest any such means except by combination on the part of importers not to trade on the credit system. A subject not touched upon in moving the resolution in the Legislative Council, but referred to at some length at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and at the public meeting, was the financing of exports from Europe on account of German merchants here by London Acceptance Houses. This matter has been the subject of correspondence and it has been pointed out that before a verdict can be pronounced upon the infraction by merchants of the conditions of the letters of lien, it is essential to learn whether or not the Financial Houses in England were cognisant of the irregularity. It has been ascertained that two British Banks in the Colony were so cognizant, and I have to remark that I know of no remedy for the irregularity if the principals in London and the Banks through whom their letters of lien are negotiated do not take the trouble to protect themselves."

"The suggestion that enemy subjects, when re-admitted, should be under licence, in similar manner to British merchants in Russia, will no doubt also receive your consideration. I have no knowledge of the Russian system, but as at present advised I have little faith in effective control by a system of licensing."

DOPING AND FORGED REJECTIONS.

General Geddes's Evidence at Inquiry.

Remarkable facts about the War Office recruiting machinery in the first months of the war were given by Brigadier-General Campbell Geddes, Director of Recruiting, before the Select Committee appointed to investigate the working of the Military Service (Review of Exceptions) Act.

The chairman, Mr. Shortt, K.C., M.P., explained that it had been intended to hold the sitting in private, but the express wish of General Geddes it had been declared open to the public.

Brigadier-General Geddes was the first witness. In civilian life he is a professor at a Canadian University. He said the recruiting machine was supposed before the war to have a capacity for 50,000 men a year. It was a machine for receiving men, not collecting them. At the outbreak of war the machine was on the point of breaking down.

In the spring of 1915 the first change was made in the machine—a change which was very disastrous, and had caused difficulties ever since. The machine was asked to discriminate between the men who were to be taken. It ceased to be a mere receiving machine and became a thinking machine. That work should never have been put on the machine at any time.

Men who were eager to go into the Army were essentially civilian life for the benefit of the country. Badges were therefore issued, but they were abused, and a lot of men who ought to have gone into the Army had been protected by them. The badges were offered in bulk to employers and distributed by them. The employers were entirely uncontrolled.

In August 1915 came the Registration Act, which formed the basis of the military register. He did not know and he could not explain to him what idea was in the heads of the men who ordered the compiling of the military register. Men as they attended were marked off the register and known to have joined the Army. But it had proved exceedingly difficult to keep the register up to date.

The scheme associated with Lord Derby's name increased the difficulty. A lot of men attested in London and registered again as far away as Aberdeen and Inverness. Some attested in six or seven different places, and got 2s. 9d. for each attestation. In one London sub-area there were 53 William Smiths, and in another 53 Abraham Cohens, and all had changed their addresses since attesting.

At the passing of the second Military Service Act there were approximately 1,000,000 errors in the military register, and there was no plan to get it right. The Act had been founded on the erroneous assumption that the military register was complete.

At the outbreak of war it was assumed that men would flock to the colours, not seek to escape, and no precautions were taken against trickery. Thus men who, knowing themselves unfit, obtained papers marked "Rejected" were able to sell them to fit men at an average price of £15.

"We now know that classification cards were forged on a great scale," said the witness, "and that false classification cards were actually printed—a regular industry. On taking charge at the War Office I found a small half branch of a department dealing with the question. Clerks were scattered about in all parts of the building, and there was no chance of controlling things at all."

On August 21st last they had a plan on which to work. The only way they could get at the root of things was to send every body on the books a calling-up notice and get the men to tell the authorities all about themselves. There was no other way. One mass of the people they had never been able to touch—roughly, one million men who held rejection forms.

"The recruiting machine is in process of attaining perfection," said General Geddes, "and I hope to be able to say by the end of this year, certainly not much sooner, that it is complete." The medical boards, he added, would remain under the administration of the Director-General.

They had inspectors who went round to see that Army regulations were carried out. In the last few months recruits had been found unfit for the work to which they were allotted. The actual error in classification by the medical boards he believed to be rather under 0.5 per cent. There was a good deal of "doping." For instance, they would have men with oil running out of their ears.

A man would go before the Medical Board and be classified. He would receive his calling-up notice, and then another hopelessly unfit man would report at the recruiting office in his stead. The War Office had several definite instances of this. One case was that of a man with two wooden legs reporting himself. Examination had become very necessary.

Of the million men to be examined about 425,000 had been before the boards up to June 14.

Replying to Sir Godfrey Barrington, M.P., the witness admitted that recruiting was a very rough and ready business, and that there had often been a tendency to be able to say by the end of

MISSIONARIES' LONG VOYAGE TO ARMENIA.

Pacific Ocean Route Chosen Again After 107 Years.

The old days when there was no Suez Canal route to the Orient, when there were men P. and O. liners eating up the miles from Tilbury docks to the lands with out the Ten Commandments, and when missionaries from America to China went out in sailing ships around the Cape of Storms, are recalled by the announcement of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions that it has just sent eight of its representatives to Armenia by way of the Pacific Ocean. It is the first time in 107 years that the Board has sent missionaries by this route.

The party, five men and three women, left San Francisco on the Japanese steamship Nippon Maru on July 18. The missionaries will go over the Trans-Siberian Railroad and through Russia to Tiflis, in the Russian Caucasus, where they will join other missionaries of the Board that have been for some time established and administering relief work among Armenian refugees who to the number of 250,000 have fled thither across the Turkish border.

This relief work covered not only the distribution of funds and rations, but the instituting and administering of relief industries, the maintenance of orphanages (a large percentage of these refugees are orphaned children or widows with their fatherless little ones), and the beginnings of a repatriation of these exiles in the villages and upon the farms from which they were driven. It involves the purchase and distribution of cattle, and of farm implements, the making of garments, the knitting of socks, the establishment of weaving and spinning industries, the employment at wages that will barely sustain life of thousands of women, and the feeding, clothing and housing of other thousands of helpless children.

Furthermore, it involves a ministry of consolation, of sympathy, courage and hope, to fear-driven and destitute people, who are on the point of giving up in despair. The issue at stake in the Russian Caucasus as in parts of Turkey, Persia, Syria and Egypt, is the saving of the remnant of a virile and serviceable race, which has been fully treated, but is yet capable of making large contribution to the world's life.

In this relief work the American Board missionaries are closely associated with the American Consul and with Russian officials. The names of the eight who sail on the Nippon Maru and the cities to which they hope ultimately to return, are as follows: Walter H. James, Moscow; Miss Susan W. Orvis, Odesa; Rev. Theodore A. Elder, Moscow; Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Compton, Moscow; Rev. Ernest O. Partridge, Sivas; Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. White, Van.

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GENERAL SHIPPING NEWS.

Suez Canal Company.
The sixty-third annual general meeting of the Suez Canal Company was held in Paris recently. The report for the year 1916, which was adopted, states that the position showed no essential difference from that of the previous year. The outlook was somewhat more gloomy. The war continued. The continuance of the same causes has only aggravated the effects produced. Traffic through the canal which in 1915 amounted to 15,286,165 tons, fell in 1916 to 12,325,347 tons, a drop in round numbers of 3,000,000 tons, to which must be added the previous losses of 4,100,000 tons in 1915 and 600,000 tons in 1914. Thanks to increases made in the rates, which have been successfully adopted, the receipts have not fallen in the same proportion. At the last annual meeting it was announced that an additional surtax of 50c. had just been put in force, and it was stated that, should this be found insufficient, no hesitation would be felt in imposing another of the same character. Not only was this done, as from October 5, 1916, but on January 1, 1917, a third increase of the same amount was made. The council had now decided that a fourth surtax, amounting to 75c. instead of 50c. should be applied on 1st July next. This would amount to a total increase of 36 per cent. on the per-war rates. The successive increases have met with neither obstacle nor opposition. This was a proof of what was said last year, that the shareholders would reap the benefit of the wise and liberal policy which had always been followed. In times of prosperity they had agreed to heavy reductions of their dues in favour of their clients. Now the company would withdraw these concessions without exciting murmurs, or even surprise. These increases, however, had not been sufficient to compensate for the decrease of traffic through the canal. The receipts from special navigation dues showed a deficit of some 14,000,000, as compared with those of 1915. The results of the current year, which had been seriously considered when deciding the dividend which it was proposed to distribute, show a new and profound decrease. The ruthless submarine warfare which Germany declared on February 1, 1917, was undoubtedly the principal cause of this new decline. The uncertainty of the immediate future necessitated that they should be more than ever faithful to their customary rules of prudence. The council, therefore, proposed to distribute only a total net dividend of 80c. which only slightly exceeds the actual profit for the year, and will leave to be carried forward an amount very similar to that of the previous year. For 1916 the total receipts amounted to 89,044,276l. 83c., showing in comparison with the total receipts for 1915 a decrease of 9,183,822l. 04c. The decrease for the transit dues alone reached 13,473,709l. 62c., but there was a compensation of 4,289,947l. 58c., forming an increase in the revenue from other sources. The principal increase was in the receipts from the financial services, these amounting to 4,135,886l. 08c. The expenses for the year amounted to 34,585,714l. 23c., showing thus an increase of 2,535,745l. 87c., as compared with the previous year. This increase arises partly from increased establishment charges, to which is added 3,252,500l., forming the interest and sinking fund of the five per cent. bonds issued in 1915. The increase in the price of materials has, on the other hand, been such that in spite of all economies efforts an increase of 1,151,015l. 19c. has taken place in the working expenses. Had not energetic efforts been made to reduce expenses in all branches this increase would have been still much greater. A reduction of 2,000,000l. in the amount allowed for depreciation, and an almost complete absence of costly contingencies in the current year, together with the satisfactory condition of the company's material, justifies fully a reduction in the amount allotted. The excessive receipts over expenditure with the amount brought forward from 1915 amounts to 54,051,251l. 70c. It is proposed, firstly, to fix the amount of profits for distribution at 43,707,042l. 26c., and to carry forward the balance of 10,344,309l. 44c. This distribution of 43,707,042l. 26c. represents a dividend of 77l. 58c. per share, which is increased to 102l. 58c. gross by an additional interest of 25l., or a net return of 90l. The general shipping for 1916 was represented by a passage through the canal of 3,110 ships, of a net tonnage of 12,325,347. This is a decrease on 1915 of 539 passages, and of 2,940,808 tons (or 19.26 per cent.), and in comparison with the year 1913, the last normal year, a reduction of 1,975 passages and of 7,738,537 tons, or 38.48 per cent. Besides this superficial comparison there are other interesting features to be noted. If the purely commercial traffic of 1916 be taken separately, and a deduction made of a proportion of State transports, the figures show 2,240 ships of a tonnage of 8,631,534, as compared with 4,980 ships and 19,732,739 tons—a decrease of 50.26 per cent. as compared with 1913. This comparison requires some explanation because the 870 ships and 3,093,763 tons of State shipping in 1916 consisted of important commercial goods which it is impossible to separate from the remainder. Indeed, in a great number of cases this trading appears rather to be increasing, and State commerce is taking the place of private trade. The decrease in the commercial traffic in 1916 is not therefore really so marked as the above figures would lead one to suppose. The net average tonnage of ships passing through the canal was in 1916 3,963 tons, that is to say, about the same as 1913, which was 3,940 tons. The number of passages made by ships in excess of 10,000 tons remains proportionately the same. The Franconia, of the Canard Line, and the Ceramic, of the White Star Line, were amongst the largest ships which passed through the canal, and these enormous vessels accomplished without any difficulty whatever the passage. The increases in the transit dues on April 1, 1916, and Oct. 5, 1916, produced altogether an additional revenue of 5,923,000l., which reduced to 14,162,000l. the reduction in the receipts from these dues. There still exists an uncertainty as to the immediate future of the traffic in the canal, and any prophecies of person would be useless. The position after the war may be regarded with confidence, for after peace there is no doubt that as soon as the ocean routes become safe again there will be a notable renewal of shipping passing through the canal. If the figures of pre-war years are not at once attained the canal will, in the present, nevertheless, renewed activity. On the other hand, it is to be hoped, that the maintenance of higher tariffs over those in force at the outbreak of war will facilitate a quick return to former prosperity. The report deals at some length with the military operations in the Isthmus of Suez, and points out that the military situation there has improved considerably. The directors offer no comments on the submarine war; none they say are needed. They had only to note the facts, and among the most recent is the unrestricted submarine warfare, which, in the zones established by the Central Powers, threatens indiscriminately neutral as well as Allied traffic. The outlet for traffic in the Mediterranean is in one of the zones where the Austro-Germans hope to prohibit navigation of all kinds. Hence the submarine warfare is a sort of declaration of war directed specially against the canal. As in the last report, mention is again made of the devotion of the staff, which successive mobilisations have so greatly reduced, and of the splendid manner in which it has faced the trying situation. In conclusion the directors make special mention to the great loss which the company has sustained in the death while on active service of the distinguished general secretary Marine Bertrand. The directors have appointed in his place M. Beret, who has already for many years rendered excellent service to the company. Mr. Edward Roume was elected to the Administrative

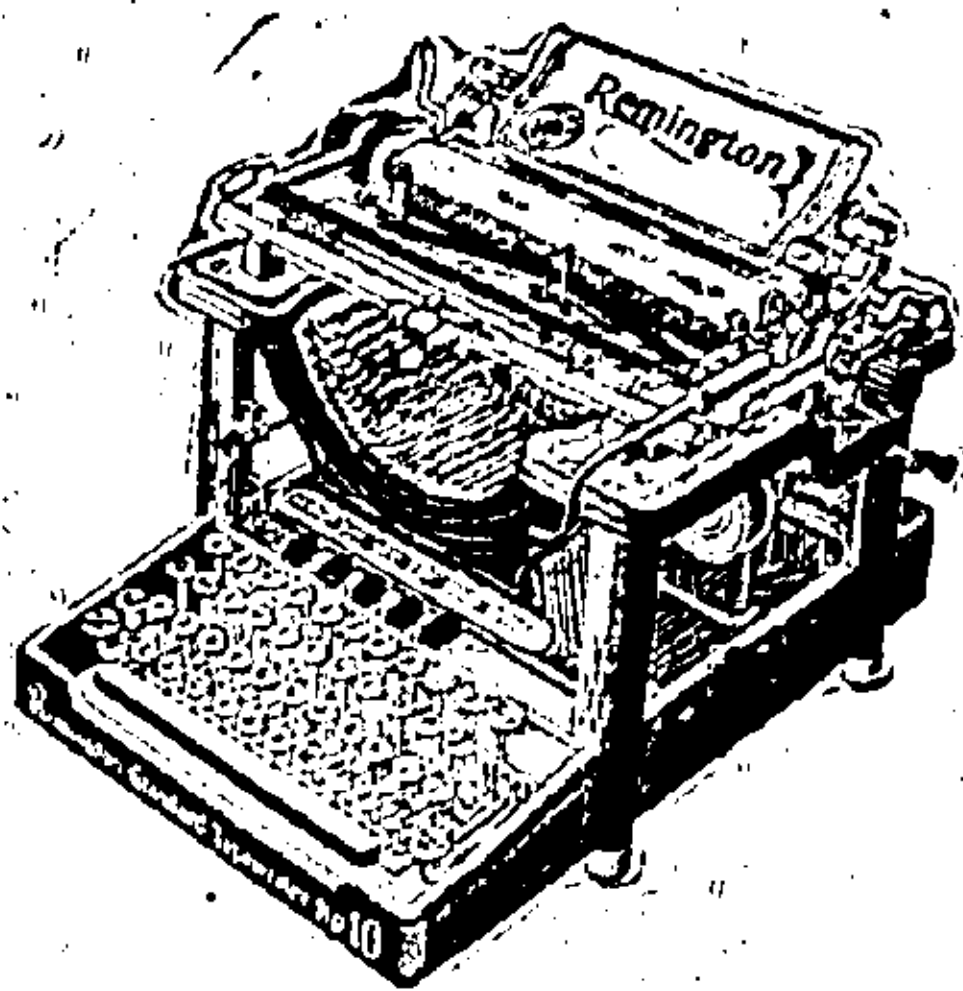
Council, and Mr. T. Anstruther, Mr. G. Davis, Sir Frederick Green, and Mr. A. Isaac, the retiring members of the council, were re-elected.

O.S.K.'s New Plans.
A Japanese paper like the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to an old man, and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha to a young man; the former conservative and passive, the latter progressive and active. The Japan Chronicle does not know whether this is a correct representative of Japan's two largest steamship companies, but it is true that there has been, and is, an agitation among some shareholders for a reorganisation of the N.Y.K. management, while the Osaka Shosen Kaisha has been showing marked activity of late. It has inaugurated services to South Africa and America, and has also opened lines in Chinese and South Seas waters. As already mentioned, continues the Kobe Journal, the O.S.K. requested the Government to shift the subsidy on the North American line to other routes that have been or are to be newly opened by the company. It now contemplates launching two projects when that request has been granted by the Government. One is said to be the opening of another South Seas route, and the other the withdrawal from the coasting service. It is said that the members of the management are already fully agreed as to the first project, but not as to the other, though early agreement is also expected in this respect. It is urged that after the war the Osaka Shosen Kaisha should specialise in ocean-going services in the interests of the nation as well as of itself. This is opposed by a few members of the management, while others urge the advisability of retaining the company's coasting service in the name of a separate company to be newly established by business men closely connected with the O.S.K. It is expected, however, that the specialisation in ocean-going services will get the upper hand.

Irish Shipping.
A first effect of the recent appointment of Controller of Transport in the issue of an Order requiring in future that cattle booked for transit from Dublin to Manchester are to be sent only by direct steamer service. Hitherto many were booked from Dublin via Holyhead through the London and North-Western Railway Co., the journey being by sea from Dublin to Holyhead in the company's boats, and from Holyhead to Manchester by train. The transfer to the trucks thus involved at Holyhead was a source of additional labour, but the route was favoured by exporters as more expeditious than direct shipment, which is generally subject to delay owing to the tides. Pressure of circumstances, however, has made it necessary for the railway company to minimise labour at Holyhead owing to the large number of railwaymen who have joined active service, and also to economise trucks in view of other demands. It has, therefore, been found desirable to curtail public traffic as far as possible, and the transit of cattle to Manchester from Dublin has been therefore prohibited over this route, and must in future be

booked through the direct shipping provided by the City of Dublin Steam Packet Co. between Dublin and Manchester. The Irish Controller, Mr. H. G. Burgess, has written to the Port and Docks Board asking for particulars of the extent of storage accommodation likely to be available at the Port of Dublin, and whether such could be placed at the disposal of the Controller. The Board has directed the secretary to supply the Controller with the fullest information, and intimating their agreement to furnish all facilities possessed at the port. As already pointed out (says the Journal of Commerce), the arrangements under the Controller will tend very much to the convenience of shipping. It will afford better distribution of consignments which will minimise the necessity of any vessels leaving Dublin or other Irish ports light, and by placing cargo at the disposal of vessels will increase correspondingly the earning power of the ships and tend to quicken transit, all points much to the advantage of our sea commerce.

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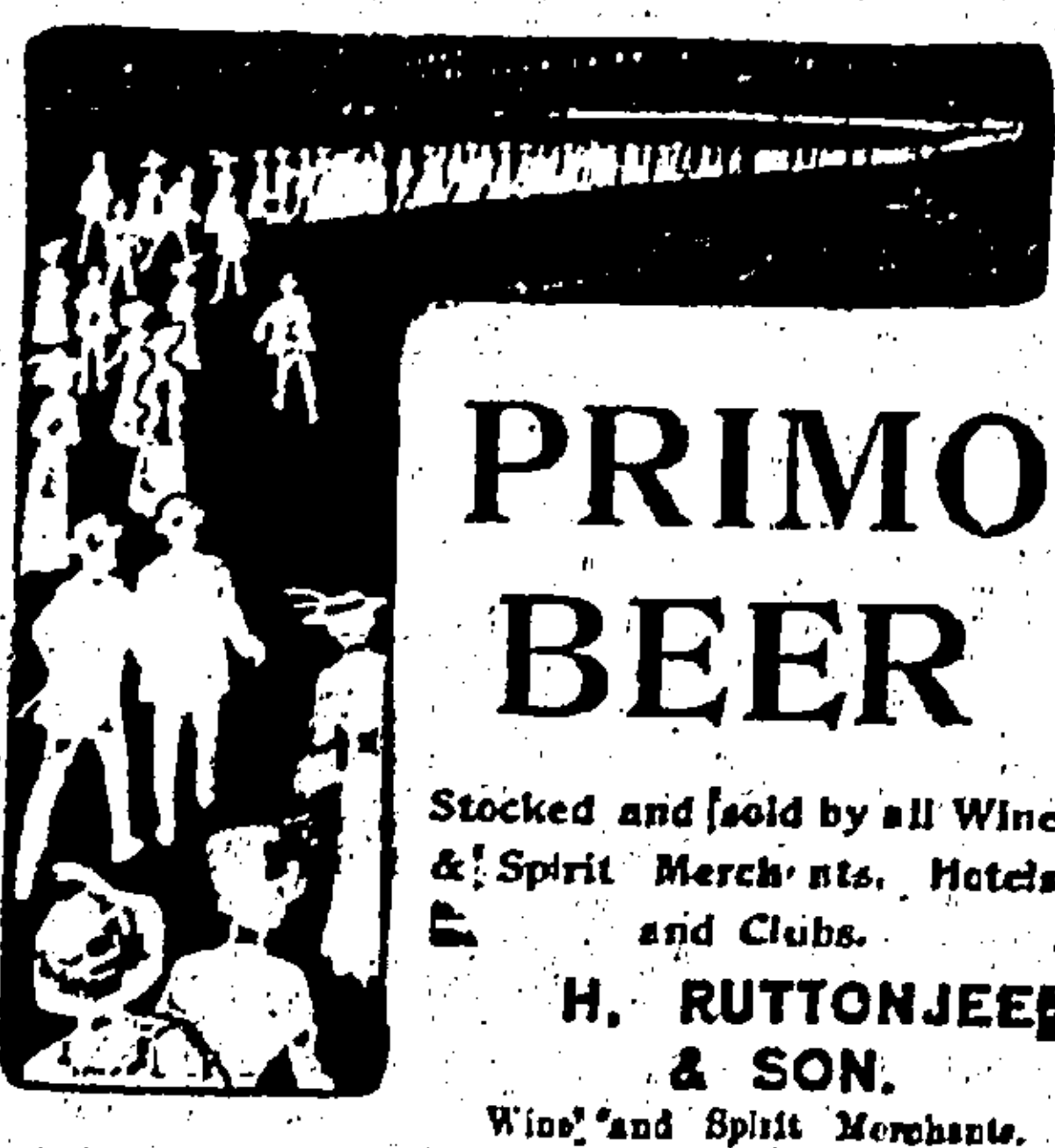
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HONGKONG SHARE REPORT.

S.—SELLERS; SA.—SALES;
B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.

H. K. & S. Banks b. \$575

Cantons n. \$320

North China n. \$140

Unions s. \$300

Yangtzes n. ex 73 \$19

FIRE INSURANCES.

China Fires n. \$133

H. K. Fires n. \$300

SHIPPING.

Douglases n. \$85

Steamboats n. \$17

Indos (Def.) n. \$59

Indos (Pref.) n. \$55

Shells b. 108 1/2

Ferries n. \$29

REFINERIES.

Sugars n. \$92

Malabars n. \$29

MINING

Kailans b. 40/-

Langkats b. 14

Raubas s. \$2.50

Tronohs n. 25/6

Urals n. 32/-

Oriental Cons. b. 28/-

DOCKS, WHARVES,
GODOWNS, &C.

H. K. Wharves sa. \$74

Kowloon Docks n. \$113

Shai Docks sa. 7 1/2

LANDS, HOTELS
AND BUILDINGS.

Centrals n. \$88

H. K. Hotels b. \$9 1/2

Land Invest. b. \$85

H. K. Est. b. \$6

K'loon Lands n. \$33

Shai Lands b. 7 1/2

West Points b. 7 1/4

Reclamations n. \$115

COTTON MILLS.

Ewos s. \$1.60

Kung Yiks n. 1 1/2

Shai Cottons n. 1 1/2

Yangtzepeeps n. 1 1/2

Orientials n. 1 1/2

MISCELLANEOUS.

Borneos n. \$6

China Light & P. n. \$4.50

Providents b. \$7 1/2

Dairy Farms n. \$25

Green Islands n. \$7

H. K. Electrics n. \$48 1/2

H. K. Ice Co. n. \$149

Ropes n. \$26 1/2

Steel Foundries b. \$10 1/2

Trams, Low Level sa. \$6.00

Trams, Peak, old s. \$9

Trams, Peak, new n. cts. 30

Laundries b. \$3

U. Waterboats b. \$13

Watsons n. \$6

Wm. Powells s. \$6.50

Morning Posts n. \$29

CORRECTED TO MONDAY
AUGUST 31, 1917.

BENJAMIN & POTTS.

Share and General Brokers.

Princes Building.

Tel. address: Broker.

EXCHANGE.

SELLING

T/T Demand 3 1/2

T/T Demand 3 1/2

T/T Demand 3 1/2

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BANKS.

**BANK OF CANTON,
LIMITED.**

HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and
General Banking Business
Transacted.

INTEREST ON FIXED
DEPOSITS:

For 3 Months 3% per annum.

For 6 Months 4% per annum.

For 12 Months 4 1/2% per annum.

LOOK POON SHAN,
Chief Manager.

**BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE
DE CHINE.**

行銀業實法中

Capital (1/2 Paid up) ... France 45,000,000

1/3 of the Capital subscribed by the

Government of the Chinese Republic.

Chairman of the

Board of Directors Andre Berthelot.

General Manager A. J. Perrotte.

HEAD OFFICE:

74 Rue Saint Lazare, PARIS

BRANCHES:

PEKING, SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN

HONGKONG, and SAIGON.

BANKERS

In FRANCE: Société Générale pour

l'encourager le Développement du Com-

merce et de l'Industrie en France.

In LONDON: London County & West-

minster Bank, Ltd.

In NEW YORK: Citibank & Co.

Telegraphic Address: CHIBANKIND.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts

and Fixed Deposits. Terms on application.

Every description of Banking and

Exchange business transacted.

M. ROUET DE JOURNEL, Manager.

HONGKONG BRANCH:

Queen's Building. Tel. No. 2352

5, Canton Road.

Hongkong, 20th August, 1917.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

**PEAK TRAMWAY CO.
LIMITED.**

TIME TABLE.

12.00 A.M. to 12.00 A.M. EVERY 15 MIN.

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